

John on life

New law would let schools charge fees

A change in the law to permit local authorities to charge for tuition is under consideration in the Department of Education. It will clear up the confusion brought about by last month's High Court ruling that music instrument teaching had to be free if it was part of a school's curriculum. Stephen Cohen reports.

New rules for mergers too

New legislation which will allow local authorities to charge for lessons is being drafted by the Department of Education. It is intended to be introduced before the end of the year. A working party which is clearing up anomalies in last year's Education Act is now looking at ways of allowing charges to be brought in. The move has been prompted by a recent High Court ruling that it is illegal for payment to be demanded. Mr Justice Forbes said it was wrong for Hereford and Worcester county council to charge for musical instrument lessons. The case had been brought by a parent who objected to paying. About 40 local authorities have been charging for music tuition, according to the DES, but they must now stop. The loss in income could run into millions of pounds. Hereford and Worcester planned to raise £100,000 from fees. Lincolnshire estimated that its charges would bring in £70,000. It is not just music tuition that is affected. The High Court ruling could be interpreted to cover swimming, cookery and craft lessons where charges are levied. The judge said that individual instrumental tuition was capable of forming part of a school's curriculum and, if it was provided as part of that curriculum, no fees should be charged. Local authorities reacted by warning that they might end this type of free tuition altogether. This week, Hereford and Worcester said they would continue the music lessons until June without the £10 a term fee, but would then think about running the classes outside normal school hours. This could escape the ruling. The authorities have also asked the DES working party to change the law in another area so that school mergers can go through more quickly and with less fuss and opposition. At present, a merger is treated in exactly the same way as a school closure: notices are posted announcing that the local authority will cease to maintain the schools involved, though the intention is to re-open them as one new school on separate sites. This invariably arouses public opposition because of the emotive effect of the word "closure". Mr Alistair Lawton, chairman of the Association of County Councils education committee, said this week that the procedure needed "tightening up" because it was a "long-winded business". Two months have to elapse for objections to be made and appeals can be considered by the Education Secretary. The authorities say they do not want to limit the public's right to oppose merger schemes but they are unhappy with the flood of objections they always bring. An increasing number of mergers is likely over the next few years as 750,000 school places disappear. The DES dealt with 100 closure proposals last year. The large majority, according to Sir James Hamilton, permanent secretary, were handled within four months.

Inspector too busy to call' claim

Headteachers complained this week that school inspectors were too busy compiling national surveys to visit them and give advice. In its evidence to the Rayner inquiry into HM Inspectorate, the Secondary Heads Association says that national surveys on the Inspectorate have diminished its availability as a national resource. Mr Peter Andrews, SHA press spokesman said: "It has got to the stage that heads don't even bother to ask because the HMIs are so busy on national matters like the surveys. A new inspector is introduced to you and then you hardly see him again. A lot of them also seem to be based at Elizabeth House in London." The SHA evidence says: "It is increasingly difficult to invite HMIs to give advice in a school other than in the case of national inquiries. There is no adequate substitute. Local authority advisory services are variable in quantity and quality, and in some areas are regarded as ineffectual as sources of advice by being forced into an administrative and somewhat directive role."



Stinking iris, nippewort, borage and gorse; hedge woundwort, greater stitchwort and burr; purple loosestrife, rosebay willowherb, ladies' bedstraw, woody nightshade; greater bellflower, common mallow, pigweed. The wild flowers of Britain are being given away by Dr Stephen Maxwell, to children who send a stamped addressed envelope to 103 Noel Road, London N1. He wants children in suburbia to see the old garden flowers which were ousted by foreign plants.

Cruise row chairman resigns

The man at the centre of the row over free places on an educational cruise has resigned as chairman of the education committee. Mr Gerald Hughes, who booked free places for himself, his wife and other councillors and officials on the s.s. Uganda, resigned before being re-elected as Tory candidate for the

May elections for Berkshire county council. The report of an inquiry published last week censured Mr Hughes for failing to consult the education committee about the allocation of places. In his resignation letter Mr Hughes says he accepts completely the report's findings.

Avon resource unit to close after all

by Bob Doe
The highly praised Avon resources for learning development unit will close down after all. In spite of an apparent last-minute reprieve, Avon's education committee has confirmed its original decision to shut the unit from August 31. Earlier reports that the unit was to close brought in protests from all over the county. The county council asked the education committee to reconsider the closure plan as the savings could be made without closure. Mr Philip Waterhouse, the unit's director, complained this week that the committee was unwilling to consider, other than in the most casual way, alternatives to complete closure that would save the same amount of money. See Aristides page 72.

Soulbury scale 7½% rise

Educational psychologists, advisers, youth and community service officers who are on Burnham-related salary scales had a 7½ per cent pay increase confirmed by the Soulbury Committee this week. It is common practice for this group of local authority officers to follow the same settlements as those made on the Burnham primary and secondary committee, and indeed they received all the Clegg awards last year. Youth and community workers will be paid the increase from July 1; the rest will receive it from April 1.

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The Easter conference season opened this week with the Secondary Heads meeting at Sheffield. Over the next three weeks, teachers' unions and professional associations will be competing for the headlines, as education gets its annual airing as part of the rites of spring.

Mrs Shirley Williams' appearance at the rostrum was well-timed: the first occasion for her to talk at length about education since the formation of the Social Democratic Party. She did so burdened by her earlier foolish flirtation with the abolition of private education - an authoritarian policy symbolic of all the Social Democrats most bitterly oppose. She used the occasion to extricate herself from the mire as best she could, in the knowledge that the rest of the Gang of Four would not go along with her.

What emerges from even a brief discussion of education from the Jenkins-Owen-Rodgers-Williams perspective is the limited value of stirring policy statements at this stage. The only important educational policy is likely to be that on public expenditure which determines the pace and potential of all other initiatives. Mrs Williams was able to make the right noises about examination reform (though the slow progress which she achieved in office scarcely promises any startling change). She remained ambivalent about the long-term future of the examination system, however, appearing to regard an ultimate shift to a fully-fledged tertiary system as a prelude to the ending of all external examinations at 16 plus. On 16 to 19, Mrs Williams took her stand staunchly behind attempts to promote an integrated policy of education, vocational preparation, work experience and industrial training. More clearly than any other minister she has faced the need for educational maintenance allowances - even if, here again, her vision exceeded her political prudence.

Mrs Williams' Social Democrats are committed to comprehensive secondary education and the ending of selection at 11, though it sounded as if there might be more room for local compromise about alternative forms of development in areas which had so far insisted on retaining grammar schools. The Social Democrats must be aware of the residual strength in the country -



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New party, old policies - Mrs Williams' first outing in SDP colours

well represented among those who say they support the SDP - of those who want to keep grammar school education in some form, and whose view of the assisted places scheme is a lot closer to Mrs Thatcher's than to Mrs Williams'.

The detailed itemization of educational policy - all of it conditional on vast economic uncertainties - would be dangerous as well as pointless. What the Social Democrats should offer is intelligent continuity rather than exciting but improbable diversions.

Mr John Tomlinson's SHA speech provides the Platform article on page 4. It is a stirring call to the teachers and local authorities to set their own curricular house in order, to head off the encroachment of the central Government, the national politicians and the DES administrators. Coming a week after the DES paper on the curriculum and a week before the Schools Council's own document, it was a bold intervention, which the heads were well disposed to respond to. Mr Tomlinson saw the simultaneous review of the Schools Council (by Mrs Nancy

Trenaman) and HM Inspectorate (by Sir Derek Rayner) as the most serious overt sign yet of the determination of the central Government to dominate the content and process of education in schools. The *School Curriculum* showed how the Inspectorate and the rest of the educational establishment had blunted the first efforts of politicians and senior officials. If the Inspectorate were now to lose their quasi-independence and the Schools Council was stripped of even the vestige of self-confidence which Mr Tomlinson and Mr John Mann have helped it to recover, the threat of DES control of the curriculum would be much more immediate.

Mr Tomlinson's case is that the best way for the schools and i.e.s.s. to prevent the DES from usurping power is by taking action themselves; aided, of course, by the Schools Council whose own curriculum paper is intended to be a practical aid to this end. It will certainly be compared closely when it appears next week: direct comparison with the DES version will be unavoidable.

The battle for the control of the Inspectorate is

clearly one important behind-the-scenes struggle which is now taking place. Equally clearly, it must be obvious on which side of this particular struggle the teachers and the local authorities should stand: they need to be able to count on the professional integrity and independence of the Inspectorate and to be able to use the expert witness of the HMIs against the politicians when this is appropriate.

The evidence presented by SHA to the Rayner inquiry, however, shows that heads think they need a good deal more than this from HMI; notably the advice and support which depends on frequent school visits by Inspectors. As SHA complained, the small size of the present Inspectorate and its concentration on survey work strictly limits the amount of time HMIs can spend counselling heads and their staffs. On a narrow view - the view Sir Derek Rayner is all too likely to take - advising heads is not the HMI's main job (which is advising the Secretary of State). But the more narrowly the role of the Inspectorate is to be defined, the harder it will be for them to find the allies elsewhere in the educational system they need when, as now, they are under threat.

Finally, there remain the warnings uttered by Mr Donald Frith, the secretary of SHA, on the eve of the conference, about the undesirable spur to early leaving in the changed supplementary benefits rules. Now that benefits are not paid till the end of the school holiday after a boy or girl leaves school, there is said to be firm evidence that more are leaving at Easter, even if this means forgoing the chance to take exams in the summer. This must be clearly monitored, and the evidence carefully assessed. DES ministers have promised to keep the matter under careful review, but they may well need to have their elbow jogged. It now seems clear that the change in benefit rules was made with the principal object of saving staff in the Employment Services Division of the MSC rather than saving money on benefits. There is every reason to believe the rules could be changed again if good evidence can be mustered of its unintended side effect. The Secondary Heads Association have an obligation not to let this matter go without a fight now they have joined the careers officers and others who have taken up the issue.

When she was asked how these embryonic policies differed from Labour's educational policy she said:

Mrs Shirley Williams outlines SDP education policy

New party wants wider choice

by David Lister

The abolition of exams at 16, the end of "perks" for public schools and a German style tripartite system for 16-year-old leavers would all be likely to follow if the new Social Democratic Party took office.

The policy of the new party was outlined this week by Mrs Shirley Williams, one of the party's founders and the former Labour education secretary.

The main planks of the SDP education policy are: wider parental choice of schools within the comprehensive system; examination reform including major and minor A levels and an eventual replacing of the 16 plus with profiles and assessment; tertiary colleges a German style tripartite scheme for 16-year-old school leavers; a lessening of the academic and vocational split in the system; use of surplus school space for nursery classes and community education; centres of specialisation for minority subjects and a local income tax to replace the rates.

Mrs Williams is also in favour of the abolition of fee paying schools, though she stresses that this view is not shared by the other members of the Gang of Four. And she appears willing to compromise on a removal of "perks" for public schools, such as charitable status, and a "twinning" of public and comprehensive school pupils.

When she was asked how these embryonic policies differed from Labour's educational policy she said:

"Labour has never made up its mind about independent schools at all. Labour has never said anything interesting at all about the vocational academic split. It has completely gone for the unification of the 16 plus but hasn't said it might want to see the end of the 16 plus."

Outlining her policy in an address to the Secondary Heads Association in Sheffield this week, she spoke of several long term goals for education. One of these was the unification of 16 plus exams.

She said she would prefer it to be rather less dominated by the O-level structure. O-levels were too rigid and too formal, and some CSE work would have been well worth retaining. The more important reform was the reform of A-levels, she said. There should be at least two minority as well as two majority subjects to bring the division between science and the arts a bit closer. Eventually she wanted to see the disappearance of O-level or its successor altogether to be replaced by a mixture of internal examination, school profiles and assessment.

A further need was for an end - on tripartite system for 16-year-olds leaving school, moving towards a vocational year with a one third educational independent schools would be willing to become sixth form colleges within the maintained sector and suggested "twinning" children from public and maintained schools.

She went on: "We have to make a substantial move forward in binding up the divisions between vocational and academic education. It goes all the way through our society. We have to say to the major professional institutions that they had better forget about trying to give themselves status by only accepting a full time education route as the one to professional status."

"Also I believe the future really does lie gradually in the emergence of a tertiary sector and the combination of post 16 vocational with the post 16 academic. Traditional schools have got to get closer together with FE colleges and gradually this divide has got to disappear."

Parents, she said, should be given a wide choice of different types of comprehensive school. They should be able to choose between different denominations, single sex or mixed, and between different types of disciplinary procedures, though she admitted she was in favour of banning the can altogether.

She said she was the most "way out" of the gang of four in her desire to abolish fee paying schools, but there would be agreement on the abolition of charitable status and differential grants for service men whose children attend public schools. She believed that some independent schools would be willing to become sixth form colleges within the maintained sector and suggested "twinning" children from public and maintained schools.



Catching them young - Professor Charles Taylor head of the physics department at University College Cardiff, gave two lectures recently on the physics of music at schools in Mid Glamorgan and Gwent to children between the ages of seven and eleven. He is pictured here answering questions at Pencoed Junior School. The lectures were part of a scheme to encourage science careers by introducing children to scientists.

Town halls' spending records defended by AMA secretary

by Sarah Bayliss

Local government underspent on each of the expenditure targets set for it by Whitehall for the four years up to 1979-80, Mr Tom Caulcott, secretary of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, said last week.

Speaking at the conference of the Confederation of Scottish Local Authorities, Mr Caulcott gave a strong defence of town hall spending records, using new figures for recent years.

He had obtained the latest unpublished figure for actual current expenditure in England and Wales in 1979-80 from the Department of the Environment which showed that local councils underspent was 1.5 per cent, 2.6 per cent and 0.8 per cent respectively. It was necessary to go back to 1975-76 to find an overspend and that figure was only 1.7 per cent.

Mr Caulcott drew a comparison with central government spending which in 1981-82 was 8 per cent higher in real terms than in 1975-76. The latest White Paper on public expenditure showed that in the same period local government spending had dropped by 21 per cent in real terms.

Mr Caulcott warned of an impending crisis since the cuts now being demanded of local authorities were the highest ever, while the Environment Secretary was armed with new powers to penalize those who didn't conform.

Heads' leader job poser

The leader of the country's secondary school headteachers faces the indignity of having to re-apply for her job as head.

As soon as she completes her year as president of the Secondary Heads Association in the autumn, Mrs Molly Hattersley will be asking her local authority for a job.

This is because her school, Creighton

"If local government freedom is the casualty in this conflict, then it is ironic surely that it should happen after a history of local government conforming with central government expenditure targets, when central government expenditure has been rising against the known wishes of ministers themselves," he said.

Referring to the Scotland Local Government Miscellaneous Provisions Bill which is currently passing through Parliament, Mr Caulcott said: "The direct intervention powers, which are given to the Secretary of State for Scotland to reduce grant merely if he regards the level of spending as excessive, are the most serious threat we've seen."

Earlier last week Mr Jack Smart, chairman of the AMA, said he was distressed by the "obvious glee" with which some councillors were setting about spending cuts.

"Too many local authorities are accepting with quiet question that cut can follow cut and that millions of pounds can be saved, without doing any long term damage to society... and without putting at risk some of the essential services which have been built up so painstakingly over generations," he told the Local Authorities Management Services and Computer conference at Eastbourne.

Flying dons in hunt for students

by Biddy Passmore

University dons are jetting abroad to hunt for more students now that the rise in tuition fees is beginning to be felt.

Students and lecturers attending foreign conferences now travel with bulging briefcases of promotional literature for their institution. Their aim is to persuade governments and young people in the countries they visit that "they have something special to offer, even at the new, higher price. From this autumn, minimum recommended fees at British universities will range from £2,500 to £6,000 a year."

At Essex University, where nearly a quarter of the students come from abroad, the intake of new overseas students fell by 30 per cent last autumn meaning a heavy loss in fee income. To try to undo the damage this year, lectures have been sent on week-long tours of North America and Japan and another will set off for Malaysia shortly.

Courses are also being developed at Essex to suit the overseas market. A one-year post-graduate course in offer and a special catalogue of courses suited to third-year American undergraduates - for their "junior year abroad" - has been produced.

Warwick University is taking similar measures, although its proportion of overseas students, at 4 per cent, is comparatively small. But the university estimates that even the loss of 30 students last year meant a loss in fee income of £91,000, so academics flying off to conferences in Malaysia, Hong Kong and South America have been well armed with material and course changes are being rushed through.

Lord Flowers, the rector of Imperial College, London, is setting off tomorrow on a Far East tour to build up contacts in the hunt for students.

Exam board bid to ratify territories

Exam board chiefs were summoned to a meeting at the Department of Education this week to break the deadlock preventing the final ratification of the four English exam territories.

Last August Kent, told the Department of Education that it wanted to be part of the London territory rather than the Southern with the rest of the South Eastern board.

But Kent's partners in the Southern CSE board, East Sussex and Surrey, are unwilling to see the South Eastern board broken up or reduced to an uneconomic size. This has delayed final DES approval.

Kent says the majority of GCE exams in the county are taken through the London University GCE board. This seems to reflect the preferences

of the county's 19 grammar schools, however. The South Eastern board claims that two thirds of all Kent's secondary schools use GCE boards other than London.

Now, a compromise has been put forward by the Association of County Councils in which Kent would be allowed to keep a foot in both the London and the Southern groups.

Comment

Work - the elusive touchstone

Better contact between some schools and their local employers is probably the most visible legacy of the first Great Debate. At that time - in 1976 - industrialists were constantly moaning about the low academic standards of school leavers. At a higher level there was a feeling that schools, pursuing their own curricular goals and interests, had become too cut off from the real world. Links between school and work might be the elusive touchstone to Britain's economic recovery.

Contrary to some prophecies, school/industry co-operation has not been a nine-day wonder, though the momentum behind it has certainly flagged. This week HM Inspectors produced a guide to good practice (in the tradition of *10 Good Schools*), showing how 12 schools have bridged the gap between school and working life in rather different ways.

For example, an 11 to 18 comprehensive in the West Midlands has built a close link with one local firm, which every year devises a project based on a real problem facing the firm. In 1978 the school came up with a way of providing a monthly stock valuation without a physical stock take. In 1979 the school successfully designed a test rig to measure strain on a piece of scaffolding.

A secondary modern in the North West has made a concerted effort to relate the curriculum to practical applications in employment. A local firm took a close look at CSE courses at the school, and advised on their relevance to industry. Syllabuses throughout the school have benefited. For example, following his secondment to a food processing firm, a science teacher introduced experiments in the school laboratory to test flavouring essences.

Record high youth unemployment may seem to make all such links rather futile, particularly in cases such as the EBC project in Sheffield, where they are concentrated on the least able pupils. Most of what these young people are being taught about industry and work might be thought to be irrelevant. (As the inspectors point out, there is a danger that the school curriculum



could become too narrowly vocational, too tied in to the specific demands of one or two local employers). Much of the work described is like what many schools have been trying to achieve with their non-exam groups for many years. Links with industry give the courses more immediacy and direction, and this in turn motivates both teachers and pupils.

What is clearly emerging from the Sheffield experiment, and is echoed by the inspectors in relation to the 12 schools, is that successful links require extra resources. These may be in the form of extra time, manpower or money. In Sheffield a spare teacher in each school had quite disproportionate benefits, and at a time of falling rolls local authorities should remember what good value for money this leeway on staffing can offer. If this sort of co-operation is to continue, there will have to be more rather than less chances for teachers to be seconded to industry, to take part in in-service training, and to have relevant elements introduced to initial training.

The most immediate dangers are the recession, which will reduce support from firms, and the fact that the novelty is beginning to wear off. In the end all these contacts depend on individual teachers and industrialists, and as they leave, as inevitably they must, the links are liable to disappear. To maintain and renew them requires constant effort from the schools, but it is effort that has its rewards.

Bland men's bluff

The prospects for a new initiative on industrial training, advanced jointly by the Department of Employment and the Manpower Services Commission, begin to look increasingly dim. It is still hoped that a Green Paper can be produced which

will have the backing of the Government as well as the MSC, outlining a universal scheme of traineeship and laying the foundation for a complete overhaul of the apprenticeship system. It now appears to be much more difficult to get agreement on the terms. The draft has been reworked several times, becoming blander at every turn. In the background there is the rumbling echo of other disputes. The trade unions are angered by Mr Prior's determination to close down as many industrial training boards as he can; the employers are incensed by the decision that they should bear all the operating costs of those boards which remain.

It is all a sorry tale of misplaced ideological zeal and the linkage of one dispute to another in the pursuit of industrial diplomacy. It threatens to affect more than just the work of the boards, however, if it causes the unions and the employers to step back from the rest of the training initiative. It seems that the paper now being prepared by the MSC, as the basis of a consultative document, stands by the long-term aim of freeing apprenticeship from age limitations and extending access to training to all entrants to industry. But it remains to be seen how far the MSC can go in the direction of a fundamental review of apprenticeship in the face of hardening union attitudes.

In the context of current disputes between Mr Prior and the two sides of industry, it is not clear what the DE attitude to the MSC paper will be. Mr Prior may yet salvage his training initiative, a bit dog-eared but still capable of a little mileage, given a favourable wind and a modest budget.

A good deal of argument will centre on who should pay for what, and what legal obligations, if any, should be placed on employers and trainees. The way things are now developing it seems unlikely that these matters can be resolved without legislation. Whether Mr Prior could get such a measure through the Cabinet is far from clear. There is a long way to go before the proposals are in finished shape, and already there is an overpowering sense of *déjà vu*. The MSC officials - and notably Mr John Cassels, the director - who have struggled manfully to persuade the Government and their own masters of the need for a document setting out a framework for a 10-year reform programme, are now struggling to rescue something at least from the wreckage.

Mr Prior has clearly not yet given up hope, but then his job is one which only the incorrigibly optimistic can hope to perform. But optimism is not a sufficient basis for setting about the long overdue reform of an antiquated and inadequate training system. Good works as well as faith ought to be the order of the day.

The facts a good parent wants to know

Now that the consultation on the Government's information proposals have virtually reached their final stage (page 6), the local authorities and schools now have to go ahead in time for September 1982.

Most of the listed items on which information will have to be supplied to parents would strike an objective bystander as both rational and minimal. Openness is to be welcomed wherever it can be provided; information for parents is a good place to start. This is also a particularly good time for schools to think about, and set down explicitly, the outline of their curriculum, and therefore what an educational equivalent of the Trade Description Act might require them to maintain in the way of subject, choice and staffing.

Attention will focus on the most contentious item, calling for details of exam results; the only demand to be scaled down in the face of criticism. The DES hopes, probably vainly, that it will not be easy to compile league tables, if pass rates are not called for. Here, however, schools may well want to provide more information rather than less. The bare results by subject, together with the number of pupils in the age group will be of limited use to parents. Unless i.e.s.s. give some guidance to both schools and parents on how to compare what goes in with what comes out, parents will have no way of answering the only important examination question: are the children getting the results they should be capable of given their ability when they entered the school?

There is no easy way to set out the background variables without fogging the figures, but it is hard to believe that some rule of thumb will not be needed. In any event, it is now everyone's best interest to get on with working out how best to provide rather more than the minimum information.

No comment

From youth to maturity (all days) - an education session listed in the programme for the year anniversary meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science.

NATFHE call for elections

Heads of department in colleges should not be appointed but elected by the teaching staff, says a motion to be debated at the annual conference of the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education next month. Another motion calls for the creation of additional posts or co-options for women members on the union's decision-making bodies where they are not "properly" represented.

The Young Scientist Investigates

Terry Jennings

Birds
Flowers
Sea and Seashore
Seeds and Seedlings
Small Garden Animals
Trees

The Young Scientist Investigates is designed to give junior school children a practical introduction to science skills, and to help them develop scientific awareness.

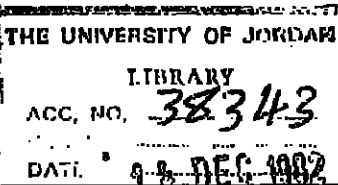
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Platform

The evidence is that power is shifting dangerously towards the centre. Schools with local support for their aims could counter that force, says John Tomlinson

Time for the Empire to strike back

Whenever two or three from teachers' associations, or schools, or I.e.s. are gathered together, the refrain is the same: the power is shifting dangerously towards the centre. The evidence seems to be everywhere around us: Examinations - proposals for the national criteria at 16-plus will be ready within the year. The final say will be with the Secretary of State. Teachers' conditions of service - It seems that the new Burnham machinery will bring the Secretary of State into conditions of service as well as salary fixing.

Higher education in the public sector - Leak, denial and rumour cannot disguise a strong push towards bringing effective power to the centre.

The Universities - The test is about to come: will the UGC remain independent or will cuts in specific universities and courses be settled by DES?

The HM Inspectorate - Will it remain independent and therefore sometimes a source of discomfort to governments; or will it be brought under the control of the DES; that is, under political control?

The Schools Council - Seems to be in the same boat as the Inspectorate: if you become independent minded, you attract attention. Especially if you represent the old tradition of gaining consensus between central government, local authorities, teachers, parents and industry.

All this makes the claims of Government to want to liberate and enhance local government sound very hollow. Indeed, many would argue that the most important centralizing force is the new block grant system for Rate Support Grant because it so narrowly confines the discretion of the local education authority.

Outside those narrow limits, if you choose to spend the rate payers' money in the belief they elected you to give the service, you are penalized by withdrawal of government grant. The DES beckons us to freedom while behind us the Department of the Environment fastens the strings of the strait jacket.

My message, delivered as a provincial governor and temporary proconsul in the educational empire to his fellow satraps, is clear and simple: "It is time for the Empire to strike back."

There are other paradoxes to note. The social demand, voiced by politicians, is for more explicit agreement about the objectives of education, prescribed studies, and clearer forms of assessment - just at the time when social and economic change has made the achievement of such agreement much less possible.

If our new regular, multi-ethnic, academic society finds the narrow consensus of 1870-1970 insufficient, surely a new one cannot be spatchcocked together by political fiat? Isn't it more likely that it will take a lot of thought and argument and that any new agreement will grow upwards rather than be imposed downwards?

There is a strong demand for better vocational preparation, more work experience, more preparation for working life - just at the time when the economy is least capable of using the services of the young. And when it is much harder to see what kind of working life those in work will have.

The third paradox follows from the second. Those worst hit by the changing economy are the disadvantaged - those for whom serious programmes of compensatory education are clearly necessary and have been proved to work where seriously tried. Yet while interest in "vocational preparation" grows, interest at national level in compensatory programmes has withered away.

Indeed, all the by-products of ex-



John Tomlinson "No central government could impose its will."

penditure policy are causing a widening of the gaps between schools in well-heeled areas and those in socially disadvantaged areas. How long will it be before some I.e.s. with a consistent suggestion of discrimination by switching rates and taxes towards schools whose parents cannot pay for books, stationery, music, swimming and field trips? And what will be the reaction of the parents who are paying over the odds? Will they be happy to have to raise even more for their school because their rates are being used to help those who cannot help themselves?

The fact of this process of widening the gaps between schools has been recorded by the HMI survey. The results of this process are already visible. Money from outside the education service has to be brought in on a massive scale to provide compensatory education programmes as part of the Youth Opportunities Programme.

Basic literacy and numeracy, linked with "Social and Life Skills" programmes have burgeoned in the further education element of the YOP. The Further Education Unit has published radical curriculum development reports and we have a national Basic Skills Unit serving not the schools but the post school world. Furthermore, there are rumours that soon Government will propose a national "traineeship" entitlement for (all or most?) of those over 16. Unless we are very skilful, that will widen still further the gap between what the schools can provide and what is provided otherwise.

My message about striking back, put very simply, is this. Teachers and schools have to grow in stature and capability so that they can live successfully - which means in the best interests of their pupils - in a world that demands that objectives and methods and accountability are all made more explicit. The best schools have already done it, you have only to go and talk to a meeting of their PTA to appreciate it. So I am not calling for the moon.

The essential components are these:

• Some agreed way of setting the objectives of education. It needs to be done at three levels, with increasing specificity - national, I.e.s. and school.

• Some way in which schools can act as corporate professional bodies capable of thinking out their objectives in concert with their public; planning, monitoring and evaluating their curriculum subsequently as a strong professional activity; and then standing accountable according to agreed criteria.

• Some way of I.e.s. understanding, leading and supporting this process.

It implies a new view of the autonomy of the teacher and a new view of the relationship between school and community. It calls for all I.e.s. to follow where some have led.

If achieved, it would be the countervailing force to centralism. No central government could impose in detail its will on 30,000 professional colleges and establishments who were understood and appreciated by their communities. A central government could lead, inspire, suggest improvements and monitor the macro-effect, and all that is a proper role for central government. I am not one of those who believes that we are faced by a massive conspiracy to centralize the curriculum and control the schools by government. I doubt whether Westminster has the wish to do it and I question whether Whitehall thinks it has, ever could have, the capacity. The final form of *The School Curriculum* document might be taken as proof of that. But I do agree with Dean Atkin of the Stanford School of Education, who in a recent survey of what has happened in the United States concluded that, "Government intervention, while it will improve certain conditions in the education system, is likely to contribute in direct, subtle and unintended ways to a redefinition of schooling and professional practice that itself will lead... to further decline."

What would be the prerequisite conditions for the development of the system I am advocating - that is, one which divided power consciously and appropriately and in which each partner knew what was expected of him?

Central government must first stop assuming as a matter of doctrine that all public expenditure is of itself bad and all private expenditure virtuous. The *auto de fe* against expenditure on education will be self-defeating, because expenditure on education does create wealth. Unless we plan a stable education and training service (albeit at a lower absolute level of expenditure if needs must), we shall not be able to earn anything.

Second, Government must recognize that the education service cannot be maintained if it is subjected to rapid short-term changes in finance. The damage caused by successive reductions since 1976 would have been bad enough. But it has been made infinitely worse because we have never known where we were for more than a few months at a time. It is one thing to say that education must be more cost effective; quite another to cause waste by vacillation.

I recall one financial year in Cheshire when we had three different budgets - April, July and November. The lead time in education is longer than the horizons of political activity. Effective planning has been the greatest casualty of the loss of consensus. And without planning there can be little sense of purpose and without purpose how can morale be maintained? I could add another paradox to my list: that we are being asked to publish school brochures and give promises to parents about curriculum options and school objectives at the

very time when expenditure policy makes the future unpredictable.

It must also be accepted that the best way to set curriculum objectives nationally is through a body which is deliberately constituted so as to represent those with a legitimate stake in the education service, as elected representatives, practitioners or customers. To do it this way would achieve at least two desirable ends. It would prevent the national objectives for the education service becoming solely a matter for the government of the day. The rhythms of education are so lengthy and its effects so fundamental in a society that it would be well to try to damp down the excessive oscillations that would occur if government went beyond setting the broad framework of law and then using its considerable influence, within the spirit of that law, in working with the other partners in the service.

I believe we were wise to have put, effectively, examinations policy in the hands of representative bodies since 1918, and to have added curriculum, once it became problematic, in 1964. Having worked with the Schools Council for more than three years now I can say that the quality of thinking that arises when different interests have to listen and accommodate to each other, when teachers are confronted by politicians, parents by industrialists, school inspectors by trade unionists, is worthy of attention. It probably represents the nearest we can get as a nation to a consensus on any particular topic at any particular time, and therefore it has the best chance of acceptance, of being practicable, and of being capable of adaptation to change.

The second desirable end which would be achieved is that such a central, representative body, paradoxical though it may seem, would be a protection of the principle of division of power. Because it allows the partners to come together to do those things which ought to be done collectively, while leaving them free as individuals (that is, as I.e.s., teachers, industrialists, parents, examining boards, etc) to do the things that are best done locally with individual *elan* and originality.

The second stage of making curriculum ideas actually implies a sense of understanding and hospitality towards the self-developing school. The education committee and its officers must be capable of taking the nationally-set objectives and bringing them nearer home. There must be advisory staff and in-service training resources. Schools cannot trigger curriculum reappraisal solely from within themselves - they need to be part of a network of schools, advisers, teacher trainers, industry liaison groups and governing bodies. The links between further education and schools will become even more important. In short, the whole I.e.s. needs to have a policy and a programme for getting ideas generated and spread around; action planned and carried through; connections maintained with industry, parents, HMI and colleges and universities.

The school itself needs to take heed of the findings of the secondary school survey and Michael Rutter's 15,000 *Hours* and much other evidence. There is a need for all schools to be able to plan and implement the curriculum as a totality and as actually received by the youngsters, in the way that only a minority do now. And the process needs to have public participation and support at the beginning in setting objectives and at the end in reporting results. The middle stage remains firmly in the professional domain. And it needs considerable development.

Such is the outline of the prescription. I offer a selection of specific

activities which might help achieve it. Look out for the Schools Council document *The Practical Curriculum*. It is an attempt to help I.e.s. and schools to bring objectives into practice. It recognizes curriculum as process as well as content, and it approaches the questions of how you monitor and assess the curriculum. It should be a useful complement to the government's new "Framework" document. It comes from an organization representing teachers, I.e.s., HMI, parents and those from industry and is addressed to the practitioner - both professional and political - in the I.e.s. and schools. It represents the view of a wide consensus. We regard it not as the last word but the first, and invite you to try its methodology and think about its ideas and send us your criticisms so we can make the next edition even better.

We can use all the power of the I.e.s. and the teachers' associations to ensure that the national criteria for the new 16-plus examination reinforce the curriculum content and especially the teaching and learning methods which we believe are necessary. Again, the Schools Council is our national body for focusing those views and applying that power.

We can help to ensure by our efforts as associations of teachers and local authorities, that the independence of HM Inspectorate is not removed. Likewise, we must ensure that at national level there remains a body having membership like the Schools Council's which has real influence on the examination system and the curriculum.

We must ensure that, whatever the final position over the total number of teachers we can afford, it is recognized that teachers must be given time for professional development and that this is the key to the development of the schools themselves as organic institutions, strong and respected in their neighbourhood. The avenues to this will be several: the negotiations over teachers' conditions of service, the deliberations of ACSET, and the new structure for teachers' salaries. Surely it is time for one main grade for all teachers whether they are curriculum leaders, organization men or classroom practitioners and only a small hierarchy at the top? How otherwise shall we avoid frustration and stagnation as the system contracts?

It is morally wrong that while our own schools' resources are being cut, the county council is boosting the resources of the independent sector," he said.

Not was there any evidence that the places were filled by children from poor families. Cheshire's records showed that just 2 per cent of children with free county places came from families with an income of less than £5000. 34 per cent came from families with incomes around £10,000, he said.

Mr Ratcliffe agreed that about 1000 places were filled by Roman Catholic school children and added that the policy would not change towards places for handicapped children.

He condemned Cheshire county council for making reductions - 350 teachers' jobs will disappear in the next financial year - while imposing a 3½ per cent rate increase and gaining about £7.7m from the new block grant distribution. He believed ratepayers would pay more to maintain and improve education standards and said that an extra two pence on the rate poundage would have meant no cuts in the coming year. However, his group did not intend to raise a supplementary rate. If it was control, there were sufficient funds in the balances for their immediate plans.

Although Conservatives have had a substantial majority since 1977 with 56 seats compared with Labour's 10, there was no overall control after the local elections in 1973. Then the Conservatives held 31 seats, Labour 29, Liberals 3 and Independents 3.

New moves in campaign to reinstate six teachers suspended from union Lambeth six given support from MPs

by Richard Garner

Three Lambeth MPs have called on the National Union of Teachers to reinstate the six union members suspended for their support of last month's day of action against cuts in public spending in the borough.

Both Mr John Tilley, MP for Lambeth Central, and Mr John Fraser, MP for other public sector unions when it is in Mr Fred Jarvis, general secretary of the NUT, urging the union to reinstate the six. Mr Stuart Holland, MP for Vauxhall, argued in their support at the disciplinary hearing which led to their suspensions.

The three MPs are among eight Labour MPs - including Mr Tony Benn, a member of the Shadow Cabinet - who have pledged support for the six whose appeals against their sentences are due to be heard at the union's executive committee meeting tomorrow.

Mr Tilley said: "It just struck me as peculiar that a union which is so concerned about cuts in public expenditure should penalize members who do something about it. They seem to have suffered more at the hands of their union than their employers, the Inner London Education Authority."

"If the NUT wants the support of other public sector unions when it is in trouble, then it has got to support them when they are - as was the case in this



Backing the Lambeth six - Mr John Tilley MP for Lambeth Central; John Fraser MP for Lambeth Norwood; and Mr Stuart Holland MP for Vauxhall.



Mr Fraser added: "Quite apart from the merits or demerits of the case, I thought that the punishment was extraordinarily harsh."

Five members of the Lambeth Association of the NUT were suspended from the union for six months and barred from holding office for a further 18 months. He and two other election candidates, Mr Dave Picton and Mr Bernard Rogan, were reprimanded for refusing to obey an instruction to withdraw the leaflet although the disciplinary panel hearing found that the leaflet did not infringe union rules.

Union leaders, who have maintained a veil of silence over the affair whilst it goes through union procedures, say the action of the teachers was unofficial since it was not sanctioned by the union's action committee. However, the teachers say they submitted their resolution calling for support for the day of action to the committee in time for it to be approved.

A demonstration is being planned outside Hamilton House, the headquarters of the NUT, in support of the teachers before tomorrow's executive committee meeting.



Mr Holland MP for Vauxhall.

Pledge on assisted places

by Sarah Bayliss

The Labour party in Cheshire is pledged to phase out more than 3,000 paid places at independent schools in 10 years.

A manifesto produced last week also promises to resist the Government's own assisted places scheme particularly at the sixth form level, to return to the standards held in 1978 prior to spending cuts, to improve capitation and pupil-teacher ratios and to re-think education for 16- to 19-year-olds.

Mr George Ratcliffe, Labour's education spokesman, said this week that places at independent schools cost the county over £2.2m. This was twice as much as any other education authority spent in England or Wales.

"It is morally wrong that while our own schools' resources are being cut, the county council is boosting the resources of the independent sector," he said.

Not was there any evidence that the places were filled by children from poor families. Cheshire's records showed that just 2 per cent of children with free county places came from families with an income of less than £5000. 34 per cent came from families with incomes around £10,000, he said.

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Resignation lecturer tells of pottery classes in social studies courses for engineers

The general studies lecturer who last week gave a "resignation lecture" because he was fed up with teaching a boring syllabus while being paid £15 an hour admitted this week that he had taught pottery instead of social studies to some students on a mechanical engineering course.

The most interesting social studies lesson we ever had," was how one student received it, claimed Dr Evan Rutherford, lecturer in general studies at Derby Lonsdale College since 1968.

Dr Rutherford, 44, plans to make his living from pottery when he resigns this year. "I take my stuff round to the local craft shops. On the experience of the last six months I don't think I shall starve."

Pottery, woodwork, weaving and practical activities are what general studies should be, says Dr Rutherford, instead of courses on the family, urban problems, the self.

"Now outside bodies give orders on what is to be taught - adding compul-

sory boredom to a situation already bad enough."

He did not feel justified in taking between £13,000-£15,000 a year fee for 90 per cent of the time he was teaching nothing.

"The basic thing wrong with general studies is that there is so little for the student to do. He usually has a choice of listening to somebody talking, or talking himself, or preparing a written project. He usually just copies ideas imposed from outside."

Dr Rutherford, a bachelor, said what he would like best was to be allowed to leave to take suitable training then return to the college to teach practical subjects. But the college authorities did not look like agreeing to this so he had no alternative but to resign. He would be doing this before the end of April.

With a doctorate from Cambridge in "nuclear politics with particular reference to nuclear weapons," Dr Rutherford agreed he could be much in demand on the lecture circuits at the present time. But with no family to support he was confident he would survive on a tenth of his current earnings.

Mr Jonathan May the college director said this week: "As an academic community, this college realises the rights of individuals to hold opinions and to express them. What Dr Rutherford is saying is his personal view and not that of the college."

"The college has a policy where general studies are concerned and there is a syllabus for each of the courses which has to be agreed with the validating body concerned. We try to listen carefully to the express needs and requirements of industry."

"If Dr Rutherford can gain support for his views and influence the teaching of general studies in this college and elsewhere then that will be a valuable contribution."

Listen with numbers

A Sunday school for maths is going out on Radio 4 and the producers hope both parents and teachers will be listening in to brush up on their sums.

The series, called *Maths with Meaning*, is based upon 10 years of research by Dr Ruth Beale of Brunel University into how pupils tackle sums and why they sometimes fail.

The results have been rather revealing, she says. Often they get the right answer by the wrong method, which makes their poor grasp of the fundamental principles.

Dr Beale put whole classes into a language laboratory and asked them to do sums out loud with the tapes running.

She found, for instance, that pupils could often multiply 0.9 by 0.9, 0.8 by 0.8, down to 0.1 by 0.1 and get the right answer just by treating decimals as whole numbers and sticking a decimal point in front of the answer. Only when 0.3 was multiplied by 0.3 was their inadequate grasp of place value shown up.

The *Maths with meaning* programmes are peppered with similar examples. "Too many of the problems set in maths do not pick out pupils' wrong thinking," says Dr Beale.

She hopes parents will listen in to find out how maths is closely related to everyday life and stress on that appreciation to their children. The programmes have 31 parts, Labour 29, Liberals 3 and Independents 3.

Regulations for helping parents to choose schools decided

by Biddy Passmore

The Government has finally made up its mind on the information local authorities and schools must give parents to help them choose a school. Draft regulations were circulated this week and the final version should be laid before Parliament by Easter.

There have been few changes - and no significant additions - to the list since Mr Mark Carlisle, the Education Secretary, first issued a consultative paper last August. The main concession, already announced in February, has been over the publication of examination results.

Previously the Government previously wanted schools to give both the number of entries and the number of places; they will now only be required to set the results against the number of pupils in the relevant form or age group.

Only one year's results, in the form of subject tables, will need to be published, so the past record of the school cannot be traced. Summary tables - set out in last year's consultative paper - will not be required. These changes are all meant to avoid the drawing up of "league tables", a fear expressed by teacher unions. However, they do not satisfy the National Union of Teachers, which is opposed to the principle of publishing examination results.

In addition to results, schools will have to tell parents about their curriculum, the range of facilities, the school's

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Lecturer in protest over PE fears

by Bert Lodge

A letter to a head from the Royal Academy of Dancing requesting that a child with ballet potential be exempt from physical education lessons has brought an angry protest from a PE lecturer.

The letter, to a school in the York area, says that for the potential professional dancer it is important that some muscles should not be over developed and there is also the problem of injury to knee, ankle and elbow which could ruin a ballet career.

"Girls in particular, should not take part in heavy training for any sport which tends to develop the upper arm and shoulder muscles. . . . In addition to the above, the current interest in gymnastics has to be curtailed in the case of a potential classical dancer. . . . too much gymnastics training can have an adverse effect on the very specialized movement demanded by classical ballet."

In a letter to the latest issue of *Action*, the journal of the Physical Education Association, Mrs Jean Williams, principal lecturer and head of studies in human movement at Trinity and All Saints college, Leeds, describes the suggestions implicit in the letter as "an insult and an outrageous exaggeration." She says that "under no circumstances should a normal human being have to be exempt from school PE on these grounds."

"It makes me wonder what initiated the fears expressed in the letter," Mr Alan Cooper, artistic director of the academy, said that each year a certain number of scholarships for children between 10-12 were awarded after ballet auditions. "The letters go out afterwards to schools attended by our scholarship holders."

He said that these children would be doing ballet practice besides their timetable PE. It was as much as they could take. "Most physical education teachers in schools don't understand what goes into a ballet lesson."

Gymnastics was particularly undesirable for the potential ballet dancer. "Girls have to retain a certain feminine line."

Mrs Williams said afterwards that she was unconvinced by the argument. "School PE at that age is so mild. It isn't as though there was anything like weight training. Ordinary school lessons are aimed at normal all-round health and development."

'Job prospects are hindered'

Children today feel that more education only hinders their job prospects, according to the Bishop of Bristol.

The Rt Rev John Tinsley, chairman of the Church of England's general synod board of education, says they feel a sense of hopelessness, which begins early on in secondary school.

Writing in his diocesan news, he says a major restructuring of Britain's educational endeavour is needed to help people live with change without falling into despair.

The Bishop blames the speed and unpredictability of changes in technology and patterns of employment for the children's attitude.

An end to the current economic recession will not mean a return to full employment, he maintains, saying: "It is probable that our way of life may be punctuated by the day of rather than the day of."

Christians are expected to have the fixities of life which come from living in the perspectives of eternity in such a way that we have a sharp eye for, and can respond to change," he says.

Dons' pay deal

The college lecturers' union, NATFHE, have formally agreed on a 7.5 per cent pay increase and the establishment of a review body to examine the pay and career structure of college and polytechnic lecturers.

The agreement, which was reached after a series of negotiations, will be subject to a referendum of the union's members.

Secondary Heads Association conference, Sheffield

Thousands of school leavers opt for social security – not exams

by David Lister

Thousands of 16-year-olds who normally would take examinations in the summer will leave school for good today and sign on for social security because of a change in government rules.

A new anomaly means that pupils aged 16 before January 31 can leave school at Easter and draw £18.50 benefit in May. If they stay on to take examinations next term, under the new rules they cannot draw social security until September.

Mrs Molly Hattersley, president of the Secondary Heads Association said at the annual conference in Sheffield that some parents who knew about the

change were encouraging their children to leave.

"There are a lot of parents who need the pound notes," she said. "But these children leaving have a debilitating effect on the rest of the school. The picture could become much more alarming in future years."

SHA leaders have launched a survey to see how widespread the problem is. But they already estimate that up to 10,000 pupils or 3 per cent of the 300,000 age group will leave early and forego the chance of paper qualifications.

Mr David Williams, head of Devises

School, said: "Parents write to me saying they know their children are going to be unemployed anyway so they might as well leave and collect the money. And many parents who do not know about this will become resentful in May when they find out."

A further anomaly is that while children registered to take CSE cannot take the examination once they have left school, O level candidates can leave, sign on for benefit and return to take their exams. Heads say that some indeed are doing this, though the majority of the Easter leavers are registered to take CSE.



Mr Donald Frith: Awful dilemma for heads over new rules, whereas they really wanted children to stay on.

Fears over career prospects

A general worsening of career prospects is a major new anxiety for teachers, Mrs Molly Hattersley, head of Creighton School, Haringey, said in her presidential address.

She said: "The chances of promotion for teachers of junior, middle and senior rank either in their own schools or in others are rapidly diminishing as staffing reductions, amalgamations and closures produce their inevitable results."

"Personal and professional anxieties fed by a climate of uncertainty and frustration are anathema to the confidence and optimism which are essential to good teaching, and no basis for the commitment and imagination which stimulate and feed desirable change and developments."

On the Government's proposal for a one year full time post-16 pre-vocational course, she said she was concerned that nobody with any specific responsibility for secondary education had had any hand in it or influence on it.

Mrs Hattersley went on to say that the training provided both for existing and potential heads was inadequate, haphazard and often superficial.

This was echoed by Mr Geoffrey Goodhall, SHA president-elect, who said that training was particularly needed to deal with the non teaching unions.

New exam 'will be scrapped'

Mr John Tomlinson, chairman of the School Council, predicted that the proposed 16-plus examination would be scrapped within ten years and replaced with a system of pupil profiles and assessments by teachers.

He said that some employers already seemed to prefer pupil profiles. The merger of CSE and O levels into the new 16-plus is expected to take place in 1985.

"I also ask them, and you as head teachers, to examine closely the balance we now have between qualifications in shortage subjects and teaching assignments, and to consider whether this is the best that can be achieved within the resources available."

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Cuts: Mrs Williams recalls simple arguments

Cabinet ministers cannot understand why the education budget cannot be cut back to the same extent that pupil numbers are falling, Mrs Shirley Williams, former Labour education secretary and one of the founders of the new Social Democratic Party, said.

There were likely to be more attempts, she said, to cut education spending, and Mr Carlisle no doubt faced the simplistic arguments from his Cabinet colleagues that she had faced from hers.

"Time and again," she said, "I encountered in the Cabinet the simplistic argument that you have got 10 or 15 per cent fewer children and therefore you can take a 10 or 15 per cent cut in the budget." She said teachers and politicians must find more illuminating ways of getting across that you cannot cut back bits of a teacher.

Mrs Williams said that with the new cuts in higher education life would be much tougher for sixth formers trying to get into universities and

polytechnics. The cuts coincided with the largest single generation trying to enter higher education. Heads faced the dilemma of whether or not to advise bright youngsters to stay on and possibly not get a place or to take a job that might be available now and not available later.

She said: "I feel desperately sorry for the generation of the bulge." They had been cheated at every turn, overcrowded primary schools, desperately reorganizing secondary schools, teachers who came and went, and now they had reached the sixth form, cuts in minority subjects and specialist teaching. In addition there was a 25 per cent cut back in apprenticeship this year. "Unless we are very careful we will look at a half lost generation."

She called for "curriculum compromises" to meet the needs of employers, for example the teaching of both traditional and modern maths. "Many employers don't know how to cope with many of the things you are

teaching today," she said.

Mrs Williams hit out at Mr Enoch Powell's recent speech on immigration, calling it irresponsible. "I believe," she said, "that this country has greatly benefited from the number of Jewish immigrants that came here in the 1910s, 20s and 30s. While this country clearly cannot absorb an unlimited flow of immigrants we can benefit from the motivation and determination of our Asian population and from the sense of rhythm and excitement and happiness of our West Indian population if we only allow them to make the contribution that they can."

When she was challenged later by a headteacher that attributing a sense of rhythm to West Indians could be interpreted as a racist remark, Mrs Williams apologized and said she was referring only to an attribute that minority had and others had not. She was in no way suggesting that it was their only attribute.



Mrs Shirley Williams: "Many employers don't know how to cope with many things you are teaching today".

'Make strong effort to appoint teachers of shortage subjects'

Heads and local authorities were urged to make stronger efforts to appoint and retain teachers in shortage subjects by Lady Young, junior education minister.

She said the progress made on the new retraining courses could be put at

risk and potential students deterred if new teachers of shortage subjects failed to get jobs.

"I fully appreciate the financial constraints facing education authorities," she said. "I do nevertheless implore them to take full advantage of this year's increase in the supply of these

teachers.

"I also ask them, and you as head teachers, to examine closely the balance we now have between qualifications in shortage subjects and teaching assignments, and to consider whether this is the best that can be achieved within the resources available."

Reminder for all-white audience

The 350 strong audience of head-teachers was reminded that there was not a black face among them by Professor Alan Little of Goldsmiths college, when he addressed the conference.

If the audience were all male or all female there would be ripples, he said. But there were no ripples at the conference.

fact that it was all white.

He said insufficient attention had been paid to multi-ethnic education and the dramatic change in the make up of the population.

"Education officers go grey about school closures. But I do not know many who go grey about the needs of West Indian pupils," he said.

Public libraries 'Cinderella' service

Public libraries have become a "Cinderella" service with local authorities cutting funds allocated to libraries by as much as 30 per cent or 40 per cent in real terms, according to a pamphlet published by the National Book Committee.

Lord Rell of Ipsden, its chairman, had written to every chief librarian and chairman of a library committee urging them to "maintain and improve the levels of book provision for this most important and highly appreciated service".

Overseas fees policy runs into storms

by Hilary Wiles

Britain's tough policy on overseas student fees is getting increasingly battered by the stormy seas of international relations.

The latest small dent in the policy of charging overseas students the full economic cost of their courses comes from the direction of southern Africa, where at a recent international Zimbabwe aid conference in Salisbury, Lord Soames pledged £5m of British government funds towards the cost of higher education for Zimbabwean students.

This goes some way towards reviving the special training programme set up for Rhodesian students after UDI was declared in 1965. The programme was due to be wound up over the coming year, but the new allocation of funds – part of a £25m bid package – will allow many of the 870 Zimbabwean A-level students now studying in Britain to continue their education here.

A further £5m will be needed to support all the 300 students who are expected to wait to stay here, but this money is likely to be made available from the £75m of British aid given to Zimbabwe on independence.

The £5m donation follows a number of small but obviously apologetic gestures on student fees made towards Third World countries already this year.

Last month the Government announced that 20m of aid funds would be made available for new awards to students and trainees.

Boyson's model head teacher

by Biddy Passmore

The days when all you needed to be an effective head was intellectual ability, long experience and great ability as a teacher were long past, Dr Rhodes Boyson, junior education minister, said in Oxford at the weekend. A good head now needed to be an effective leader and a good manager of resources – including people – with a gift for public relations.

Giving the Joseph Payne Memorial Lecture after a presentation ceremony of the College of Preceptors, Dr Boyson said selection boards now looked for evidence of some specialist training for headship, either full or part-time. He welcomed the idea that

ordinary teaching qualifications were not enough for this high office – but he wanted to see more converts to it.

Heads of large schools should remember that they spent considerable sums of taxpayers' and ratepayers' money, Dr Boyson said. A group 11 secondary school usually had an annual budget of around £1 million. If the value of the investment in the training of its staff was added, the figure could be near £10 million. "Studies of school performance have shown that good management and supervision by heads and senior staff can increase substantially the return from a given input of resources," he said.

Dr Boyson, who was headmaster of Highbury Grove School before entering Parliament, said his experience at that school enabled him to assert confidently that locality and intake could not be used as excuses for the results of ineffective leadership at the top. "A good head can work wonders in a deprived area, a bad head can fail in a favoured area," he said.

Dr Boyson welcomed the Campaign for the General Teaching Council, started by the College of Preceptors. Education ministers were greatly encouraged by the support that existed in England and Wales for a council, he said.

Closures: students to 'create clamour'

A tough campaign to fight the cuts in further and higher education was pledged by Mr David Aaronovitch, President of the National Union of Students, in his opening speech to the union's national conference in Blackpool this week.

"We must help to create an alliance for education that will make such a fuss and create such a clamour that governments are forced to listen," he told delegates. Students must be prepared to take over college and university departments threatened with closure, he said.

"We must challenge the fatalism of the vice-chancellors... the buck passing of the policy directors and the apologetics of some education unions," he declared.

"If colleges are going to talk realistically about closing faculties or departments then we must be in a position to go in and take them over."

The NUS has already started talks with the Association of University Teachers on the feasibility of running university departments temporarily as worker co-operatives but Mr Aaronovitch admitted last week that the lecturers had reacted sceptically. Talks with the other unions concerned are to begin after the conference.

The NUS president had earlier made a bitter attack on Mr Mark Carlisle, the Education Secretary, accusing him of allowing education to take the "lion's share" of the cuts. "Despite being an able man he is proving to be the biggest disaster that we ever had at the helm of the DES," he declared.

He challenged Mr Carlisle to resign if he was genuinely concerned about what was happening in education. "Resign publicly," he pleaded, "and give us a replacement who, wet or dry, is more than just a Treasury punch bag."

Crisis ignored: The crisis in public sector higher education is going unnoticed in the wave of attention focused on the schools and universities, the college lecturer's union said last week.

Mr Mick Farley, Assistant Secretary of the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education, told union members at a meeting in Portsmouth Polytechnic that between 1980 and 1982 higher education in the public sector would suffer a proportionate cut in grants five and a half times greater than that suffered by the universities in the same period.

In absolute terms, he said, the public sector cut of £35m over the two years was three times bigger than the university cut of £15m. "Yet another retreat from the Government's avowed policy of parity of treatment for both sectors of higher education," commented Mr Farley.

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Reactions to 'The School Curriculum' have ranged from relief to scorn

Bland document seen as exam indicator

by Bob Doe

The *School Curriculum*, the Government's less prescriptive version of what all schools should teach has been received with a mixture of relief and scorn. But the retreat from earlier plans to set down minimum amounts of English, maths, science and languages is seen by some as the signal that the Government has abandoned attempts to influence the curriculum directly in favour of control through the new 16-plus exam system.

Though privately few of the educational politicians seem to believe the Government's exhortations will carry much weight in schools, there is a distinct reluctance to say so in public, which is perhaps a comment in itself on the prestige of the Government's curriculum views.

"A wet blanket with no teeth," was one anonymous description. The heavily ironic "a triumph for democracy" and "now is the time for a futile gesture" were other off-the-record comments. The Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association made no secret of its "combination of the blindingly obvious and the obviously blind."

One local authority leader, when asked for a comment on the document

on the day it was published, said it was not important enough to set aside other work to read it, though both local authority associations dutifully sent out statements welcoming it.

Some doubts have been voiced about what the document's blandness portends. Some exam chiefs believe it means the Government will seek instead to control the curriculum through the national criteria being drawn up for the new 16-plus exam.

The question of a group certificate covering exams in several core subjects is expected to be raised again. This was one of the possibilities suggested by the Department of Education and Science during the great debate.

The DES confirmed this week that the group certificate idea was very much in ministers' minds. They had not wanted to complicate 16-plus development work with it at present but were anxious to ensure that the new 16-plus exams were compatible with a group scheme.

Mr John Tomlinson, chairman of the Schools Council made a speech this week warning about increasing central control of education (see page 4). He said that education ministers would

have the final say on the 16-plus national criteria.

This suspicion apart, *The School Curriculum* seems to have been received within the council with some relief. This was partly because of the three favourable references to the council in the document - a distinct change from the 1976 secret "Yellow Book" that led to the great debate and severely criticized the council's performance.

This is of some significance at the moment. The council's work is again being reviewed by the Government and Mr Tomlinson made it clear that he fears the DES may take over control of the council.

There has been little reticence shown when it comes to commenting on the document's reference to resources and how there are to be few extra. That "begged the only question that must be answered" said the AMMA.

Not all reactions were critical, however. The Association of County Councils welcomed it as "commendably brief, simple and balanced as it recommends the curriculum should be."

Mr Alistair Lawton, chairman of the ACC education committee, said, "The curriculum statement must be a great deal more welcome than its predecessor. The DES has clearly listened to the comments which the ACC and others made and has drawn widely and usefully on HMI experience."

Limited resources affected what schools could do. "The paper recognizes these limitations but within the constraints it suggests a sensible appraisal of work in schools."

The Professional Association of Teachers liked the document, "especially its emphasis on the need for children to be provided with a style of moral education which encourages tolerance."

But the PAT do not like the circular that will follow commending *The School Curriculum* to schools and announcing a review of local authority curriculum policies in two years' time.

"This form of education by government edict is entirely new and presents a grave challenge to the professional judgement of the teachers," said Mr Peter Dawson, PAT General Secretary.

Joint study on science to cost £1½m

Up to half a million pounds is to be spent to investigate science education and the new science for all course foreshadowed last week by the Government's curriculum document.

A joint project funded by the Department of Education and Science and the Association for Science Education and the Schools Council is expected to be announced soon.

The School Curriculum documents raised queries about fitting science as foreign languages into a broad, common curriculum. Further curriculum development work was required in these two areas and the paper made clear that ministers would take responsibility for its pursuit.

In fact, none of the questions raised about languages and science in a comprehensive curriculum was new. The same questions about language were brought up in an HMI paper in 1977, and for years the Association for Science Education has made the same points about science for all, and has long been pressing for more School Council action.

Both the ASE and the Inspectors recognize that the study of all the sciences, as backed by the Government, means some form of integrated science for most pupils.

The ASE this week welcomed Government support for its views. But it concerned that the way new 16-plus examinations are being drawn up - present militates against the sort of reforms in science education, suggested.

A statement issued by the ASE this week agreed with *The School Curriculum* that many science syllabuses were overloaded and out of date. However, it criticized the lack of foresight and consultation of the groups of exam boards now drawing up new syllabuses for the common 16-plus exam.

The ASE claims that instead of taking an opportunity to reform exams, the groups of boards are just cobbling together common elements from three or four existing syllabuses.

Mr Richard Turner, ASE assistant general secretary, said the existing integrated science courses were being seriously devalued and little account was being taken of new developments in science education. Syllabuses were being made less interesting with more facts and less about the process of science. Industrial aspects of science were being overshadowed.

He believed this was largely a result of the brief given to the boards to produce the new syllabuses swiftly. One exam board chief also questioned this week the sense of drawing up national criteria for exams in separate sciences when interdisciplinary science was being suggested.

In its response to *The School Curriculum*, the ASE also emphasized the need for more laboratories and better qualified teachers. It would like to see more help given to biology teachers asked to teach chemistry or physics and questions about the "highest priority" in-service training suggested for science amounted to when such training was virtually non-existent.

The Modern Languages Association was also pleased with the inclusion of foreign language study in the core curriculum though it would have liked the Government to have gone beyond the "two or three years of language teaching" minimum and make it part of the core for all up to the age of 16.

The Government's proposals would keep modern languages in the options and the imbalance between the sexes amongst those studying languages would continue.

The MLA welcomed the suggestion that local authorities should sort out with schools which languages they should teach as a move towards the diversification of languages taught and an end to the dominance of French.

Language teachers suggest that in careers education much more emphasis should be placed on the job value of one modern language for use at draft level and above.

But even these modest aims would remain pious hopes unless more money for resources and initial and in-service training was made available.

Welsh children are being taught the dangers of litter by unemployed teachers

Off the dole in one clean sweep

by Richard Garner

Unemployed teachers are being paid by the Manpower Services Commission under a scheme costing £250,000 this year to go into the classroom and help teach children about their environment.

This year, a total of 63 teaching posts will be financed from the scheme which has already helped more than 100 teachers during the past couple of years. Those on the course must have been unemployed for at least six months and finished their training.

The scheme, which is at present running in Wales and various parts of the north of England, is the brainchild of the Keep Britain Tidy Campaign, which hopes it will soon be extended to other parts of the country.

The campaign has produced special learning kits for junior, middle and infants, schools and hopes to move into comprehensive schools in the near future. All are designed to make children more aware of their environment.

Teachers who join the scheme are paid the basic minimum salary under the Burnham agreement and the plan has been given the backing of teachers' unions - even though some of those on it have qualifications which could earn them higher salaries.

Originally, it was planned to offer the teachers the maximum they could receive under STEP (the Special Temporary Employment Programme). However, after objections from the unions that this would give them £13 a year less than a teacher's minimum salary, it was agreed they would also receive £1 a month expenses.

Mr Ian Eldridge, the executive director of the Keep Britain Tidy Group, said: "Many of the teachers we've employed have been offered full-time work during the time they've been with us and, of course, we're delighted when they accept such posts."

There was a greater difficulty the



Mr Raymond Jones, Director of the Keep Wales Tidy campaign with his team, from left to right: Helen Sweeney, teacher, Christine Williams, personal assistant to Mr Jones, Clare Davies, project controller, Allyson Fear, teacher, Paul Slocombe, YOP clerk and Gwenda Williams, typist.

He said the scheme was operating throughout Wales and in various parts of the north of England - sometimes through local education authorities but more often through the Manpower Services Commission. Areas where it is at present in operation include Northumberland, Tyne and Wear, Manchester, Wigan, Rochdale, Oldham, Bolton, South Humberside and South Yorkshire.

Mr Raymond Jones, Director of the Keep Wales Tidy campaign, said: "I've given young unemployed teachers a first-class opportunity of working within their chosen profession when they would otherwise be on the dole."

"We had 26 teachers on the first scheme and our turnover rate was such that we employed one and a half times more than that number. We lost them all except two during the year - and they either found long-term temporary employment or permanent jobs."

There was a greater difficulty the

following year - when we had 36 - in finding alternative jobs. 21 of them found substantial temporary employment or permanent jobs but some of them frankly went abroad because they couldn't find jobs here."

The teachers visit a series of schools during their time on the course - helping classroom teachers to prepare lessons designed to make their pupils more conscious of the environment.

Some imaginative work has already been devised in connection with the scheme - with some teachers inventing their own "litter" games and others organizing trips to local beaches or around the centre of Cardiff to point out the dangers of litter and rubbish to children and explain how best their environment can be kept tidy.

One of the teachers employed under the scheme, 22-year-old Allyson Fear, who is visiting a number of schools in the Rhymney Valley area, said: "I

looked for teaching jobs after I qualified last summer and there was absolutely nothing."

"I got very, very disillusioned with the whole thing. I even went to a nearby infants' school and asked them if there was anything I could do - even without being paid - it was so bad."

Helen Sweeney, also aged 22, who is teaching in Port Talbot, added: "I had been teaching in Wigan for a time and I was quite prepared to move away but - even though I've been looking all the time I've been on the scheme - I haven't found anything."

A spokesman for the National Union of Teachers said: "We were concerned that originally they were planning to pay teachers what amounted to 25p a week less than the rate for a teacher at the bottom of scale one. However, they then agreed they could have £1 worth of expenses a month."

CLEA plan for polys and colleges

by Biddy Passmore

Officials of the Council of Local Education Authorities were busy this week drafting a local authority alternative to the Government's plans for polytechnics and colleges.

At a CLEA meeting last Wednesday, councillors unanimously condemned a scheme drawn up in the Department of Education and decided to submit it to the DES. The DES plans would remove from local authority control the institutions providing most of public sector higher education and place them under a national grants committee, with no guarantee of local representation.

Instead, the local authorities favour a body "predominantly representative" of the L.E.A.s to plan, co-ordinate and "rationalize" all higher education courses in the public sector. It was agreed last Wednesday that the funding for the body should come not from central government - as it would under the Government's scheme - but from a levy on local authorities.

CLEA's rival scheme should be completed by the end of next week and will then be submitted to Mr Mark Carlisle, the Education Secretary. The local authorities hope to influence ministers' thinking before any irrevocable decisions are taken, although DES officials are still pressing ahead with the first draft of a consultative document, based on the leaked proposals.

In a confidential paper drawn up for discussion at last Wednesday's meeting, the idea of establishing a central body dealing only with poly and major colleges education was discussed. But CLEA now favours a body dealing with advanced courses in all 420 institutions, chiefly because of the difficulty of drawing the line between "major providers" and the rest.

On funding, CLEA's scheme is expected to propose a modified "pooling" system with local contributions to the central pool based on their number of students.

CLEA's scheme bears a striking resemblance to the recommendations of the Oakes Report of 1976 so it is not thought to stand much chance of changing current thinking at the DES. TUC opposes plans: The General Council of the Trades Union Congress has expressed opposition to the Government's leaked plans for a national body in public sector higher education, writes Sarah Bayliss. It claims that the proposals would create an artificial division within further and higher education.

The TUC has its own proposals for a national planning body to cover all further and higher education.

Cowley's most famous son returned home to teach English and lead the league

Ray's kind of rugby

by Bert Lodge

Try to find out the size of the grey-topped gate at the Eton versus Harrow match last summer, and a toffee-nosed colonel at Lord's informs you the answer will be disclosed only if you apply in writing giving the reasons for your inquiry.

Try to find how many watched Cowley play neighbours West Park - two council estate-fed comprehensives - at rugby last season, and all St Helens wants you to know.

"We reckoned there were about 2,000 round the touchline," said the local constabulary with detectable pride. "It needed one or two of our chaps to control the traffic." This for a school game on a soddened Saturday afternoon in February with the rest of the weekend sportsfest competing for spectators.

West Park dads and brothers were hoping to see their team score a try at least. Not any try - the try, the first one against Cowley by anybody, all season. But they were disappointed. Nobody crossed the Cowley line last season. The first XV of this 1,300-pupil mixed school played 22 games, won them all, scored 714 points and conceded only 36.

"That's nothing to write home about. If you're constantly unbeaten then your fixture list isn't strong enough." The speaker could have been the disappointed master in charge of rugby at West Park. It wasn't. It was the should-have-been-pleased master in charge at Cowley, Ray French. But he did concede the season had been good and the side the best he had been associated with.

"This is a rugby town," he said, gleefully steering away from himself a rationale for why Cowley is such a mighty rugby school. "It's funny. Here we are halfway along the East Lancs Road with Liverpool at one end and Manchester at the other, both soccer-mad cities, but you won't see many soccer pitches in this town."

St Helens and rugby had Ray French as a fusion. He was born in the town, went to Cowley for the school, played for St Helens rugby union club, turned professional and played for St Helens, got back to Cowley to run the rugby there. He has never lived anywhere else.

Oh, yes he did play a couple of other sides: England at rugby union and Great Britain at rugby league. One of the very few players to get an international cap in both codes.



Twenty years ago - the determination is there, but French suffers a heavy tackle as he tries to break out of defence during St Helens v New Zealand match Knowsley Road, St Helens, 1961.

So, plenty of enthusiasm in the town, plenty of experience in the coach. What more?

"Enthusiasm right throughout the school. We run 12 school sides from the under-12 to the first XV. And the under-12s go on tour like the others. At least 20 members of staff are involved in the rugby at Cowley, not just coaching, but accompanying teams away, catering, designing posters in the art room. There's more work off the field than on."

"Quite a few of the chaps who coach teams are themselves Old Cowleians. But you must also have a head who backs you. It's a tradition here. One I worked under, Walter Wright, thought nothing of helping with the washing up after a junior game."

"And you, finance is becoming one of the biggest problems. No local authority today will pay coach bills for 30 miles away fixtures. We have to raise about £2,000 a year independently. I had a bingo session last year."

Actually 50 miles is parochial on the Cowley itinerary. Their teams have already toured in South America, Canada, France and this summer 30 boys will tour Australia for a month. The plans were laid two and a half years ago when the first penny was banked of the £32,000 the tour will cost.

Just as many foreign schoolboy teams come to Cowley because it is French's principle that touring sides should be hosted by their opponents.

What is the opinion of this man who 20 years ago abandoned the union game precisely to play in leagues? "I wouldn't like to see leagues for schoolboys. You should be able to go about the country and play who you want. The sport is part of their education. There is enough competition already. Schools know how they stand in relation to each other."

Anyone not knowing that part of Lancashire cannot appreciate how revolutionary this sounds. League is the first game boys learn with its different rules and less emphasis on scrumming and more on handling.

Moreover, this man who left the amateur game to join the professionals hopes rugby union will always stay amateur. He does not forget the shockingly unseasonal way in 1967 the directors of his native town club suddenly transferred him to another after five seasons.

When he retired four years later, French wrote: "The game had become a chore and was no longer a source of enjoyment."

So Cowley's most famous son returned home though not, as is so often assumed, to the school's physical education department.

Thirty-one periods a week in the classroom means he keeps close to his favourites, Chaucer and Marlowe. "I like Marlowe. The blood and guts and intrigue."

Sounds like an ordinary afternoon in the front row.

Primary ratios plan sparks protest

by Biddy Passmore

A working party of Oxfordshire councillors has produced a report proposing the closure of all but five of the county's nursery schools. They should be replaced by nursery classes attached to nearby primary schools it says, at a saving of about £110,000 in a full year.

But a heated row has erupted over an important feature of the plans: to worsen staffing ratios beyond Government guidelines, probably involving the loss of 16 staff. At present, most of Oxfordshire's nursery schools have a ratio of 10 pupils to every nursery nurse or teacher and nursery classes have 13-15. But the plans now are to worsen the ratios to 13:1 in schools and 15:1 in classes.

The Oxfordshire Campaign for Nursery Education, which last year fought and won the battle to keep nursery education alive in the county, has written in protest to Mr Mark Carlisle, the Education Secretary.

Mrs Penny Stern, the campaign's press officer, said many nursery staff would refuse to teach the proposed ratios.

There is no immediate pressure on Mr Carlisle to reply. The working party's proposals will not go to the schools subcommittee until May 29, safely after the local elections.

Dossier of racism

A London teachers' organisation committed to fighting racism is compiling a dossier on the number and frequency of racist incidents in schools.

All London Teachers Against Racism and Fascism (ALTARF) is asking for examples of how schools have responded to such attacks and incidents. The findings will be published with a set of guidelines which schools can use as a basis for discussion and action.



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The countdown has begun on Britain's first educational satellite. Bob Doe reports

Schools' space lab given the signal

Schools may soon be tuning in to Britain's first ever educational space satellite which is due to be launched this summer.

The countdown has already begun at the University of Surrey, Guildford, where they are racing against the clock to get it finished, flight tested and shipped to America for blast-off.

Designed specifically with schools and radio hams in mind, the satellite will be put into a polar earth orbit free of charge by the North American Space Agency (NASA). It is to ride piggy back with one of NASA's payloads from a California launch site, either in July or September.

Already 40 schools are interested in tracking the new satellite and listening in to its radio transmissions. It will beam back to earth information in Morse code and synthetic voice forms on the satellite's condition, the earth's magnetic field, solar radiation and the behaviour of the outer atmosphere.

Schools will be able to pick these up on simple VHF radio receivers costing as little as £50.

A camera will take snaps 300 miles square of the earth's surface. Schools will be able to see these on ordinary television screens provided they are connected to a special black box costing about £150.

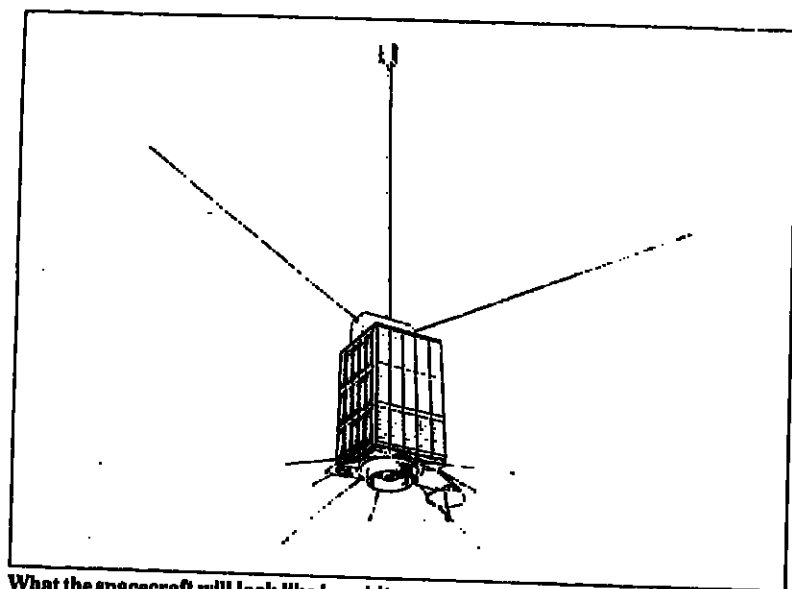
Schools will not have to clutter up their football pitches with Jodrell Bank sized aerials. A simple crossed dipole costing about £5 to make will be quite sufficient.

The experiments aboard this flying school laboratory include a magnetometer identical to that sent to Jupiter and Saturn. It is claimed they could allow amateur observers to make the same kind of contribution to space research as they do to ornithology or astronomy.

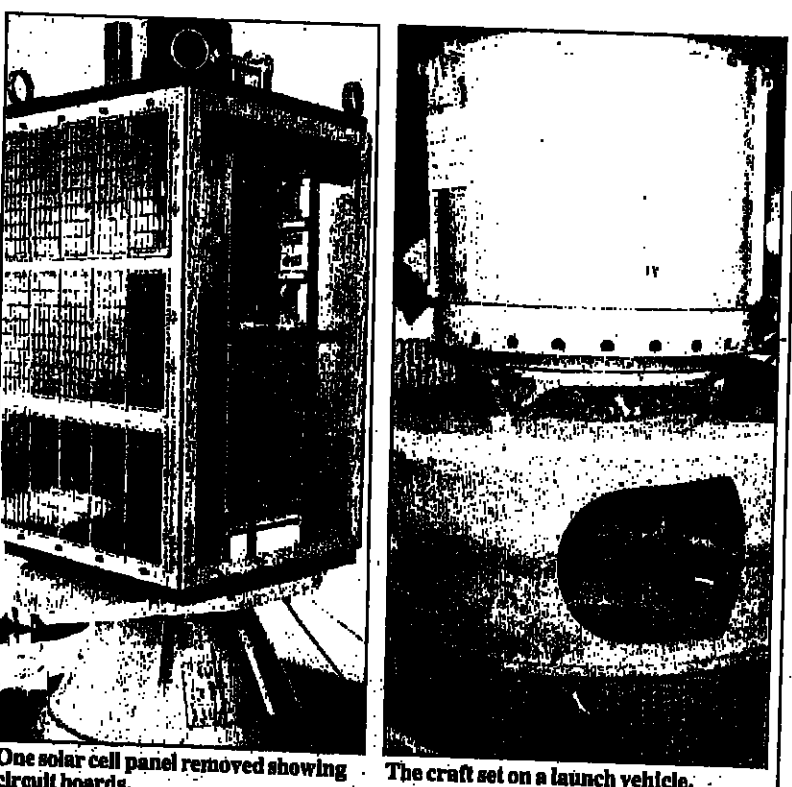
The Surrey team led by Dr Martin Sweeting has built the satellite, complete with in-flight computers, power systems, aerials and research probes on a shoestring budget of £100,000. That is one hundredth of the £10 millions a commercially-built equivalent could have cost. They have managed this with the generous help of industry and other university enthusiasts and by scrounging and using cheaper components.

The Surrey space-lab has already been flown to the USA and back to check that it fits the launch rocket.

The use schools will be able to make of it depends on their own enthusiasm. It will be a vivid demonstrator of many physical principles and applications from mechanics to micro electronics. A handbook will be available for schools telling them how to make full use of it.



What the spacecraft will look like in orbit.



One solar cell panel removed showing circuit boards.

The craft set on a launch vehicle.

'No cover' action set for jobs cut

by Richard Garner

Teachers in Birmingham are set to mount industrial action in schools next term against cuts in the education budget.

The National Union of Teachers' Birmingham branch has asked the NUT national executive for permission to take "no cover" action from the beginning of next term if the council goes ahead with cuts of £3 million, and the loss of 500 teacher jobs.

An action committee of all teachers' associations in the city has already distributed leaflets in the city centre explaining their position.

Mr Tony Miller, press officer for the Birmingham NUT, said this week: "We have been assured that there will be no redundancies but we feel there will be delays in the filling of vacancies as well as an increase in premature retirement. The action would mean that we do not cover for colleagues who are absent for more than one day."

"There would be a ballot of all members, then we would start the action in the primary schools first. I mean that classes could be sent home."

New Bill to include 'named person'

by Diane Spencer

The Government has conceded to pressure from its own side as well as its opposition's and is allowing the "named person" to be included in the new special education Bill.

Dr Rhodri Iwan Jones, junior education minister, also promised the standing committee last week that the Government would reconsider an opposition amendment to give parents the right to see all professional reports after an assessment of the child had been made.

Mr Frank Field, one of Labour's education spokesmen, said the named person would have four functions: he should act as a friend to parents, he should promote the child's interests, he would be a guide to the available services and he should have total access to professional records and should decide what form the information should be given to parents.

Mr John Hannan, Conservative MP for Exeter, who proposed the successful amendment, pleaded for a flexible framework as to who should be nominated as a named person.

"But he should not be a shadowy figure at the end of a telephone. Ideally, he should be someone from the professional team and become a friend of the family."

Dr Boyson said the Government did not think the nature of the person could be spelled out in legislation as different stages of a child's development could be a different person - the head teacher, then perhaps the career's master, the bursar had to be passed on.

Under pressure from his own side, Dr Boyson also promised to look again at assessment procedures for children under two years old. At the Report stage of the Bill he would try to give more power to parents to ask for their child to be examined by specialists, as with some handicaps it was vital to start some form of education as early as possible.

Places to go

The Government planned to take out of use just over a third of the three million school places expected to be spare by 1986. Mr Mark Carlisle, the Education Secretary, has announced:

Speaking to the North West Confederation of Head Teachers in Strerford, he said this would leave local education authorities with almost two million surplus places, leaving them with a wide measure of flexibility and spare capacity for use when the school population began to rise again.

HELP A LONDON CHILD THIS EASTER

Capital Radio's 1980 Help a London Child Appeal raised over £140,000 for needy and deprived children in London.

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Jobs in education down by third

Unemployment among teachers, school cooks, caretakers, and other educational workers has increased by more than a third in the last year, according to new figures from the Department of Employment.

Last month just under 40,000 people who work in education in some capacity were registered as unemployed, compared with just under 30,000 a year ago. The biggest increase - of 38 per cent - has been among men, 19,341 of whom are now out of work.

The figures are only a rough guide, however. They do not include many married women who do not put themselves on the register.

Department of Employment Gazette March 1981: £2.00.

Authorities employ fewer architects

Over 90 per cent of local authorities including the 105 providing education in England and Wales, last year cut down on the number of architects they employed, says a survey from the Royal Institute of British Architects.

Out of 288 authorities surveyed, 282 plan to reduce their architects' departments this year.

"The consequences for school buildings are very serious," a RIBA spokesman said. "Instead of the £300 million annually on school building renovation alone, only £130 million was spent last year."

There was little sign of any improvement, a spokesman said. This was a serious threat.

Rupert Wearing King

Rupert Wearing King, whose death at 69 was announced last week, will be remembered as the inventor and protagonist of the sixth form college. Together with his chief inspector of schools, E. J. Weeks, he suggested to Croydon in the early fifties that such a college would provide the best way of supplying good and varied sixth-form teaching to the 16 to 19s.

In its day, this proposal was original, almost revolutionary, and it aroused both keen enthusiasm and bitter opposition. It was rejected by Croydon education committee, largely after an adverse report by M.L. Jacks of the Oxford University Institute of Education. But the idea has remained alive and today there are more than 90 sixth form colleges within some 40 L.E.A.s. It is ironic that Croydon, in its 1981 plan, envisages the establishment of three such colleges.

Wearing King was one of the band of innovative administrators of the inter-war years who were fired by the enthusiasm which had produced Henry Morris, Roger Arncliffe and Sir Alec

Clegg. An able, commonsensical, economical and humane administrator, was quick to grasp the essentials of a problem, nimble and resourceful in committee; and capable of generating enthusiasm among his staff.

Stocky, tough, a good rugby player in his youth, he also had an abiding interest in the theatre and particularly the ballet. He relished family life in the country. I can remember our struggles "mucking out" under the post-war pig-raising scheme, when a group of us shared a house in Kent with Wearing's sister, the novelist Ruth Adam, her husband Kenneth Adam of the BBC, and their children. For me, he was always a good companion; our annual pilgrimage to the Varsity match at Twickenham was a pleasure for 30 years.

Sadly, illness overtook him and he retired early. But with typical neatness he then summarized his chief achievement in *The English Sixth Form College - an educational concept* (Pergamon Press, 1968). He leaves a wife, Cynthia, and a son, Bevis.

RICHMOND POSTGATE

Days away for primary children

Seven small primary schools in rural Cambridgeshire are taking part in a new educational venture called the "Away Day Project". Children from seven to nine, choose two projects from the eight available.

The projects include a magnetism workshop, with a visit to a nearby scrapyard to see a big electro magnet moving metal, and a rocks and fossils workshop.

"The projects each last two hours" said Mrs Ann Hall, who is coordinat-

ing the venture. "They have all been designed so that they can be followed up with more detailed work."

The new people involved are the advisory teachers and specialist staff who will be leading the project and the children themselves. Said Mrs Hall: "The children all come from small schools where they meet only one or two teachers and relatively few other children. One of the benefits of the 'away day' is that children from different schools will be mixed together."

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School to work

A grant from the EEC and the Department of Education means three schools in Sheffield can pioneer a project to help less able prepare for working life. Philip Venning reports

A giant step to a job

A tiny fraction of the millions of pounds Britain pours into the EEC every year is now trickling back to benefit the education system. Since 1978, three schools in Sheffield have been able to push aside some of the day-to-day pressures and concentrate on improving the way their least able children prepare for adult working life - thanks to a grant of more than £100,000 a year from the EEC and the Department of Education.

In practice the schools are pioneering courses which, at times, come within a hair's breadth of "preparation for unemployment" courses, though the schools vigorously deny they are doing anything so negative. But whatever the labels, the project has already proved that, with only a little extra teacher time, schools can dramatically improve what they offer their most disadvantaged pupils. And there are also benefits for all school leavers.

The Sheffield project is one of 65 experiments in the broad area of transition from school to working life that the EEC is funding throughout the community. Each project is different, but the closest parallel to Sheffield is at Clydebank in Scotland. In England schools in Inner London and Bradford are part of the same national programme, backed by a research team under Professor Alan Little of Goldsmiths College.

The special feature of the Sheffield approach is its decision to concentrate on producing more appropriate teaching materials and methods for the last able children, seeking as much outside help from employers and other agencies as possible.

This may sound slightly stale - a warmed up RSLA leftover, little different from any other conscientious school-industry transition scheme. But its scale, coherence, and the degree of commitment by the schools, put it in quite a different league. The active support of the education committee has also been important, not least in seconding a senior inspector, Mike Smith, to be the project's director.

But what distinguishes the project from any other curriculum development venture is the £100,000 a year from the EEC and DES. This pays for a central team of director, secretary, and two researchers, as well as an extra careers officer and educational social worker who devote all their time to the three project schools - Hurlfield, Park House, and Herries. (There is also an associate school, Earl Marshall). But the kernel of the Sheffield approach is that the extra cash enables each school to employ one more full-time teacher, with secretarial back-up. This is seen as a vital way of freeing other staff in the

schools to do the curriculum development and take part in in-service training.

"Given an extra teacher schools are disproportionately willing to release people, and this produces a net gain of far more than one teacher," said Mike Smith, the director.

Each school has been working on a roughly similar package of courses, which are designed to tell their pupils about the world they will soon enter, and equip them with some simple skills and basic survival techniques (such as learning their way round Sheffield).

One of the main differences is the extent to which they single out a target group of low ability children to take part. Some teachers feel strongly that labelling children is undesirable and counter-productive.

Hurlfield School, like the others a special priority school drawing children from areas of high unemployment and disadvantages did decide to identify about 90 children out of its fifth year of 250.

These children are offered a series of 10 week courses, under the general heading social studies, timetabled so that each pupil takes all eight units by the end of the year.

These units are on industry (a case study of a local firm), geography, careers, art (a study of the local environment), health education and home economics, religious education (which looks at issues like smoking and drugs), and leisure education. In addition there are year-long courses on photography, child care, traffic education, as well as linked courses in electronics and motor engineering with the local college.

The photography course, only possible because the project paid for expensive equipment, has been a particular success - children have been encouraged to photograph and write about their families, neighbourhoods, and what different jobs entail. The school even made a small film which followed the progress of a school leaver getting up in the morning, going to his first job at a factory, and showing what starting work actually involves. The course, and the child care one, have now been added to the options for all fifth year pupils, so they will survive when the project ends.

To some extent the project merely pulled together work that was already going on or was in the planning stage. The geography unit, for example, was merely given a fillip. "But the industry course is something we had long wanted to do," said Steve O'Hara, a teacher closely involved in the scheme. Hurlfield School has a youth centre among its buildings, and the project

group spend some time on a formal leisure education programme. "We aim to put across the message that there is no need for someone to be bored," says Brian Standing, head of the centre. The children often have little idea of what is available, and a range of interests restricted to watching television and football.

A series of visits and written work is aimed at opening their eyes to what they could be doing with their time. The visits also allow a little informal social education, which is in many ways more important for many of these children from deprived backgrounds.

Mr O'Hara admits that so far the young people have left the project knowing little more in the way of facts - its main effect was social development. "They left school confident, well aware of what was waiting for them. If you can do that for children of this ability, you really have achieved something."

The project has also had value for the rest of the school. According to Peter Cox, the Hurlfield head, what they have learned about organization and curriculum content will be useful throughout the school.

Park House school, on the border with Rotherham and in the steel heartland, was already working on ways of making the fourth and fifth year curriculum more relevant to working life when the EEC project gave it a tremendous boost. According to Dennis Roberts, the head, the staff were against separating out an identifiable group of project children. Some of the courses have been devised for all pupils, though there is a notional list of project children to help allocate funding to some departments.

The chief outcome of the project has been the creation of a "preparation for adult life (PAL)" course, taken by all fourth and fifth formers in tandem with careers education. The main innovation has been in getting outsiders, particularly local industrialists, coming into the schools and taking part in the teaching programme. Until recently trade unionists have played a rather lesser role, but as a result of a project working party, Park House now hope to include some aspects of trade union studies.

One of the main aims of the project has been to draw on the expertise of the community as much as possible. All the schools have developed links with local industry, the youth service, the Iron and Steel training board, and, to a lesser extent, further education. Some of the links were already established before the project, but all have been strengthened and extended.

One of the more original parts of the PAL course at Park House has been the tentative introduction of some basic political education. Last year this involved discussion of what politics is, group work on the difference between local and national government, and a visit to the council chamber. "There is an obvious link between preparation for working life and the understanding of the social and political elements of it," said Roy Hodge, the authority's adviser on political education. After its initial success, the course is now being extended.

Another innovation has been the introduction of Tuesday afternoon sessions of leisure activities. According to Alan Whitham, project co-ordinator at the school, the staff have been encouraged to bring their own hobbies and interests into the school - the heads of the French and maths departments have taken children hiking and climbing, for example. "Over the year, the pupils should have tried at least five new activities."

The exact choice on offer varies, but includes crafts, such as pottery, photography, soft toy making, and dressmaking; motor vehicle maintenance; basic computer studies; fishing; drama; sports; and, more unusually, concrete



Child care course at Hurlfield School, Sheffield

ing. The EEC money allowed the school to buy a small concrete mixer, and with steel offsets scrounged from a local firm the group have built concrete and timber seating for the school playground, and are now turning out plant troughs for the school greenhouse.

"We accept that many of these things can't be done by the kids out of school," said Mr Whitham. "But it gives them a chance to find out what they are good at."

The extra time created by having a spare teacher funded by the project as well as additional capitalization of more than £3000 a year has produced beneficial ripples throughout the school. Science teaching has been revamped; maths, geography, history (with a big emphasis on local and family history) and English have all had extra books and materials paid for out of project funds. An old stock room has been converted into a pupil resources centre, and minor building alterations have enabled the school to create a careers library.

Dennis Roberts believes that their next priority should be the high proportion of the same low-ability children who leave school and do not get a job. He is hoping to mount special courses for them under the 21 hours rule which allows the young unemployed to return to education part-time while claiming supplementary benefit.

At Herries School, the former head Mr Paul Usher, summed up the unanimous conclusion of everyone involved in the project: "The time resource was very, very important. Without it we would have still been two years behind and if the project proves anything it is that there are a lot of good ideas among staff that may be lying dormant because they haven't had time to develop them."

About seven staff have been involved in the sociology course (the Herries version of the PAL course, which was only in the planning stage when the EEC project came along). It includes all pupils, and takes up about a tenth of the timetable.

Under the sub-heading social studies, pupils learn about marriage and the family; heredity, growing up, social groups and classes; they also look at the purposes and organization of education, the law, politics, the mass media, advertising, and finally youth culture, family budgets and taxation, housing, consumer protection, organization of the firm, trade unions, and the welfare state.

Under health education, they learn about human reproduction, hygiene, smoking, drinking, drugs, and VD. The current element at Herries involves father figure formal teaching in the other two schools, but covers the same sort of issues - choosing a career, looking for jobs, inter-

views, other opportunities at 16. As well as the staff on the sociology course, the EEC project has involved further two in developing science projects, two more in maths, two in compensatory education, and two year tutors. One way or another about a quarter of the staff have some link with the project.

One of the tangible results has been the production of a new system of pupil records and reports for future employers, arising out of a special project working party. At Herries they have devised a pupil record for all pupils which provides a way of monitoring a pupil's progress throughout his time at school. They are now "moving strongly" towards the involvement of the children in their own records - a form of self-assessment.

Are the schools worried about what will happen when the project ends, as it is due to next year, and the extra teacher and money disappear? Paul Usher (of Herries) said that his decision to include the project-produced courses in the core curriculum showed his belief in their lasting value. "But with falling rolls there was bound to be pressure on staffing and more expensive activities would be at risk."

Dennis Roberts (of Park House) agrees with the others that the most important benefit of the project is the effect it has had on his staff. "They definitely have a much less ivory-towerish attitude to the world," he says. "The money has gone on big items like cameras, the concrete mixer, and the careers room, which will remain. But they could well be forced to cut down on leisure courses and visits, which are expensive because of travel costs."

Hurlfield's successful art photography and child care courses "cost far more to set up and run than you can reasonably justify under normal capitalism," said Peter Cox, the head. "But I'm not worried about the pull-out. The experience we've gained has given us a basis for development not only of curriculum and organization but the ethos for these children."

"The project has certainly had its failures. High truancy rates remain a problem. Links with parents and further education colleges have not come up to expectation. But the overall feeling of success, as measured by the enthusiasm of the staff in the schools, is unavoidable. Obviously the special treatment afforded the project school has given a stimulus that will be missing when and if their work is carried into other schools."

What other schools will have to learn is how to tap the same interests and commitment from their staff. The project has helped the schools lift their heads from day-to-day problems," said Mike Smith, the director. "It has given the staff a degree of confidence and belief in the attitude of the teachers that much of the dissemination of the results will depend."

Union wants more cash for specialists

by Richard Garner

Government plans to recruit more mathematics and science teachers should be extended to cover other shortage specialist subjects, the National Association of Head Teachers said this week.

The NAHT, which has 21,000 members, says it welcomes plans to set up a pilot scheme offering £500 a year scholarships to high-calibre students to take specialist teacher training courses at

selected local colleges, but believes the opportunities should be extended to cover craft, design and technology and modern languages.

Mr David Hart, the general secretary of the NAHT, said he felt that the scheme should not be restricted to 60 scholarships as had been suggested by the government, adding: "We believe the urgent need for more suitably qual-

ified teachers should outweigh any cash considerations."

The NAHT is also giving a cautious welcome to the idea that each teacher should undertake to serve for at least two years with a local education authority that guarantees a job. Courses under the proposed pilot scheme will be introduced in autumn 1982 and extended if successful.

Diploma of Higher Education passes ACID test, says Boyson

by Biddy Passmore

The Government would defend the Diploma of Higher Education (Dip HE), Dr Rhodes Boyson, minister responsible for higher education, assured college lecturers last week. But, in a speech full of reminders about the need for rationalization in higher education, he made it clear that the diploma's future would depend on its record.

Addressing the annual conference of the Association of Colleges Implementing Dip HE programmes (ACID), he said that, as a basis for further study, the two-year diploma must be rated "a resounding success", more than 90 per cent of those awarded the DipHE in 1979 who chose to continue with their studies at the same institution or elsewhere received the diploma's credit for it, he said.

The diploma was valuable as an "entice" to encourage people to enter higher education who might otherwise feel unable to commit themselves at the outset to a full degree programme. More than 80 per cent of the students enrolled for the Dip HE were taking courses which formed the first two years of a degree course, he said.

It was also a base unit, a preparatory course for a whole range of subsequent, more specialized, education and training. On his visit to Sweden he had been impressed by the number of 23-35 year-olds coming back for academic retraining at quite a high level. The flexibility of the Dip HE course should help the development of post-experience courses in Britain. Some diplomates went straight into



Dr Boyson: diploma a resounding success

employment, he said, but he did not know how satisfied employers were with DipHE recruits. The Government would welcome more feedback from the Confederation of British Industry on this point.

Dr Boyson reviewed the history of the diploma, which was first recommended in the James Report on teacher education in 1972 and introduced in two colleges in 1974. More than 60 institutions provided Dip HE courses, he reported, of which only two were in the university sector. In the public sector, provision had reached a "steady state", with some 5,000 new enrolments annually.

Tory councillors join rate payers in protest at job cuts

by Sarah Bayliss

Education cuts worth £2.9m including the loss of 40 remedial teaching posts have drawn strong protest in the London borough of Merton.

At a full council meeting last week several Tory members, including two former education chairmen, rebelled against the ruling group and urged that education cuts be kept down. Outside the town hall an estimated crowd of 2,000 protested and claimed that ratepayers would prefer to pay a higher rate increase than the 17.4 per cent which was finally approved.

Minutes before the crucial vote, representatives from all the teacher and headteacher associations went in a deputation to Mr Harry Cowd, leader of the council and a primary headteacher in the Inner London Education Authority. They pressed him to at least accept a £2.2m package of reductions rather than impose the £2.9m figure.

"He did nothing to ease our worst fears," said Mr Ron Biberthorn, divisional secretary of the National Union of Teachers.

Mr Cowd said later that Merton had lost between £4 and £5m in Government grant under the new system of block grant and that the 17.4 per cent rate increase was already too high in his eyes.

"I don't believe that anything that's happened in education is disastrous. It is going to feel the strain but so are all

the other services. If there are obvious signs of distress during the course of the year then we can look to the contingency funds."

He added that he believed the public protest had been "whipped up" by his political opponents; and only a 10 per cent rate precept would have prevented the education cuts.

So far £2.2m of the reductions have been earmarked. £300,000 is to be cut from the staffing budget which will mean 10 fewer supply teachers from September and 40 fewer full-time "supplementary" staff who are allocated to primary and middle schools where children have reading difficulties or speak English as a second language.

The cut also means that several staff who are allocated to secondary high schools to deal with disruptive pupils on the spot, will be removed from the autumn term.

In addition £900,000 will be cut from building maintenance, £200,000 from furniture and equipment including no inflation - proofing for capitalization, £100,000 from the school meals service, £100,000 from Merton technical college, £50,000 from Wimbledon art school, £50,000 from adult education including a 50 per cent increase in fees, £70,000 from the cleaning budget, a reduction in the swimming programme, and pupil payment for all public examination re-sits.

Lady Diana too young for chancellorship

Durham student's union has been told that Lady Diana Spencer is too young to be a university chancellor. That was the reply received from Buckingham Palace by Mr Ian Graham, the Durham University registrar, when he inquired about the possibility of Lady Diana succeeding

the late Mr Malcolm MacDonald as chancellor.

An official of the students' union, which recommended Lady Diana, said, "We are very disappointed to hear from the registrar that no member of the Royal Family is considered for a chancellorship before 30."

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United States/Clive Cookson

Reagan takes knife to youth schemes

WASHINGTON: The teenage unemployment rate in the United States stands at its highest level for four years: 19 per cent overall and about twice that for blacks. But instead of increasing the Government's youth employment and training programmes, President Reagan is trying to cut them back.

The administration argues that the only effective way to produce more jobs for the young is to let the free market economy prosper, under the stimulus of tax cuts and less government interference. Federal job creation schemes are seen as generally inefficient, overburdened by bureaucracy, and of little long-term benefit.

President Reagan's revised 1982 budget proposes to abolish the public service jobs portion of the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA), which currently provides work for 300,000 people—mostly young adults—in local government.

They work, for example, as teacher aides in schools, assistants in day care centres, clerks in town halls and maintenance workers in public buildings.

In addition, two big CETA programmes aimed specifically at the young would lose their separate identities in 1982 and be merged into the

general purpose employment and training programme for adults. So-called "prime sponsors"—the local agencies that distribute CETA funds—would then receive consolidated grants which they could spend on youth or adult jobs or training depending on local needs.

One of the programmes to be amalgamated next year is the Youth Employment Training Programme (YETP), which is the Government's basic means of making disadvantaged teenagers more employable. It currently serves 450,000 14-to-21-year-olds, including high school graduates, drop-outs and those who are still at school. The money is used for remedial education, on-the-job training and apprenticeships.

The other programme due to disappear in 1982 is the smaller Youth Community Conservation and Improvement Projects (YCCIP), which provide 50,000 young people to work rehabilitating old houses, tidying up parks and so on.

The following year, 1983, would see the merging of the Labour Department's Youth Summer Jobs Programme into the same consolidated grant, according to the administration's plans.

Two other, smaller programmes are

eliminated entirely in the budget—the Young Adult Conservation Corps and the Youth Conservation Corps—but yet another, the Job Corps, is spared. Its survival is attributed to the fact that Senator Orrin Hatch, new Republican chairman of the Senate Labour Committee, likes the Job Corps.

Altogether the cuts in job creation and training sought by President Reagan amount to about \$5b a year. The unions, state and local governments that lobby for employment programmes are reconciled to losing some, though not all, CETA public service jobs. But they will fight hard to preserve the separate youth programmes, arguing that the special needs of the young would not be met if the funds were swallowed up in a huge block grant.

Youth employment programmes have been quite popular in Congress and they stand a reasonable chance of escaping the fate Mr Reagan has in mind for them.

Indeed senior Democrats and Republicans on the House of Representatives Education and Labour Committee have even introduced legislation to revive the unsuccessful "youth initiative" which former President Carter failed to push through Con-

gress last year.

The House did pass last year's Bill, by 337 votes to 51, but the Senate failed to take it up before Congress adjourned, partly because of a squabble over an amendment that would have allowed employers to pay teenagers less than the federal minimum wage of \$3.35 an hour.

The initiative, for which Mr Carter had requested funding \$1.2b a year, would bring together the Departments of Education and Labour in a joint programme combining remedial education and training in essential job skills for disadvantaged teenagers.

President Reagan has repudiated the proposal and the Republican-controlled Senate is unlikely to give it a sympathetic hearing this year. But Representative James Jeffords, senior Republican on the House Employment Opportunities Subcommittee, said that with youth unemployment at 19 per cent this was not the time to abandon the initiative.

"If we fail to take the initiative on young employment and we fail to take up the obvious need to blend education and training programmes for youth, then we place an unfair burden on today's youth, who will be the workers and taxpayers of tomorrow," Mr Jeffords said.

USSR/Kenneth Shaw

Research is vague, ill-defined

Educational researchers should be judged on the quality of their findings, and not on the numbers of papers and books they publish as in the past.

In a candid and rather surprising attack on repetitious, vague and ill-defined research projects, Mr V. N. Polonski of the Research Institute of General Pedagogics declares that many Russian publications claiming to present new discoveries in psychology and education are old hat.

He calls for clearer definitions of the aims and outcome of research, less waffling, and the setting up of standard levels of novelty.

Three levels of novelty should be specified: confirmation of previous findings, supplementary discoveries, and transformations—by which it appears to mean contradictions.

The report comes at a time when Soviet planners are calling for cuts in the education budget and the Kremlin is stressing quality at all levels of the economy.

Opening what could be a Soviet equivalent of the great debate in Britain on educational trends, the paper from the Institute seems to question the current values and ideology of Soviet education.

Australia/Bill Purvis

Inquiry halts protests

SYDNEY: An uneasy peace is hovering over strike-plagued schools in New South Wales where teachers have agreed to suspend their recent round of industrial action while an inquiry is held into staffing.

Under an agreement between the state government and the teachers' federation, announced earlier this month, joint working parties have been set up to report back by this week on issues of class sizes and face to face teaching hours.

It is these issues which have caused teachers to break their 60-year-old tradition of refraining from industrial action to strike three times in the first weeks of the current school term.

Teachers want class sizes in state primary schools reduced to 30 students or less. They want more time off from face-to-face teaching and equal number of teaching periods for all secondary school teachers.

Another issue, which is also upsetting the parents, is that of composite classes, which include pupils of different ages.

As the Education Department's decentralization policy gains momentum, it seems certain that heads will look to composite classes to replace the traditional age-based class.

The president of the teachers' union, Mr Barry Manefield, said the joint enquiry was a major step towards creating a more satisfactory industrial climate in New South Wales schools.

The enquiry, however, seems rather narrowly based in comparison to other education studies, which, while lengthy, were at least broadly based and fairly thorough.

The working parties consist only of departmental officers and teachers' federation representatives. Parents and non-government schools are not included.

The parents have understandably expressed reservations about this, since the decisions will affect their children.

The fact that the enquiry is to report so promptly is welcomed. But parents say it would be a pity if this apparently positive move was simply an exercise to cover up a deal already arranged between the Government and the teachers.

No language, no work

SYDNEY: Australia's Commissioner for Community Relations, Al Grassby, has severely criticized the education system for not teaching schoolchildren a second language.

Mr Grassby said angry parents should be queuing up at schools, demanding to know why their children are not being taught a second language.

"Every major country in the western and eastern world has recognized the need for bilingual education except Australia. This has left young Australians of all backgrounds disadvantaged."

Evidence of that disadvantage is surfacing already. The angry parents are queuing up, not at the schools but at the unemployment offices.

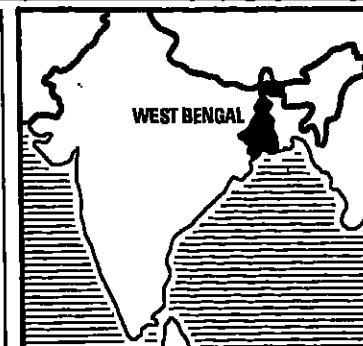
In the town of Griffith in southern New South Wales (with a large Italian community), parents are complaining that their children are being refused jobs because they do not have a second language.

They say advertisements for jobs in the town usually specify a bilingual requirement, and they claim school leavers are being discriminated against because of it.

Mr Grassby disagrees. He says employers wanting bilingual employees are not being discriminatory.

Mr Grassby blames "reactionary administrators still living in the 1940s" for the lack of second language teaching and says the need for it will increase as Australia recognizes its position as part of the "global village".

"Most of us oldies are lucky, we made it in time," he said. "But that's no excuse for betraying our children."



India/A.S. Abraham

Anger mounts over state culture policy

BOMBAY: The communist government of West Bengal state is under fierce and sustained attack from protesters critical of its language and education policies.

The protest movement is led by eminent intellectuals and artists, including the internationally famous film-maker Satyajit Ray.

The immediate issue is the provincial government's decision to scrap English at primary level, and to make it one of a group of language options at secondary level.

The move is hardly revolutionary since most Indian schoolchildren learn English only from secondary school onwards. (The exceptions are children in some of the tribal north eastern states where English is the official local language, and private school pupils whose education is entirely conducted in English.)

But in Bengal English has been taught as a second language in primary schools for 150 years, and protesters are anxious that pupils should continue to get the same early grounding in a modern international language.

The governing Left Front, however, sees English as a foreign tongue used by the ruling elite, and is anxious to give it less emphasis in school.

The controversy over English is just one part of a wider dispute over state education policies.

Since the Left Front took office four years ago all of West Bengal's universities, including Calcutta University, have had their governing bodies dissolved and replaced by nominated councils made up almost entirely of government nominees.

Private colleges affiliated to these universities have also come under closer state control.

Both the Board of Secondary Education and the Higher Education Council have been superseded by new government-controlled bodies, and the introduction of a new school primer has given rise to accusations that the Left Front is intent on indoctrinating schoolchildren with communist beliefs.

The Bengal protesters are demanding that since the federal government has the power to override the states on education issues, Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, should intervene.

Mrs Gandhi's partymen in West Bengal are already asking her to dissolve the communist-led governments in West Bengal, Tripura and Kerala, so further agitation over provincial education policies is likely to have considerable political repercussions.

First issue of the new Journal.

Finland/Donald Fields

High-level complaints fuel growing criticism of comprehensives

HELSINKI: Finland's comprehensive school system, which recently became fully operational after eight years of phasing-in, is coming under increasing fire from educationists and civic leaders.

Their criticism adds weight to complaints from parents that the schools are hotbeds of indiscipline, and to signs of increasing tension among teachers.

The debate has been joined by the most powerful civil servant in the Ministry of Education, Mr Jaako Numminen. In two keynote speeches he called the comprehensives "over-theoretical" and criticized the "fragmentation" of the syllabus for junior forms.

Mr Numminen told *The Times Educational Supplement* that the existing system did not allow pupils to prepare for the lives they would lead after leaving school. He urged that the lower forms concentrate more on basics, while senior pupils should be offered a wider choice of subjects with more accent on the arts and practical skills needed in the world of work.

Catering for the seven to 16 age bracket, Finland's comprehensives give uniform instruction at lower levels and optional subjects further up the

school. Languages and mathematics receive high priority at all stages. After their compulsory education, most pupils move on to senior schools leading to matriculation, or to vocational training centres.

Among the faults outlined by Mr Numminen is a decision, made before the comprehensives were first inaugurated in Lapland in 1972, to build giant schools in a thinly-populated country. Small village schools were closed down, necessitating long journeys for pupils and straining local authority budgets.

A ceiling of 500 pupils per school, recommended by a parliamentary committee on youth, would be desirable, but unfeasible with existing resources. The requisite building programme might just be launched by 1990.

Mr Numminen is optimistic about a reform of curricula, due to be enacted in 1985. One of its by-products could be a swing away from the "excessive" dependence on English—another cardinal sin of the present system—as parents and their children are persuaded that learning other languages such as French, German, Swedish and Russian is worthwhile.

Mr Numminen believes teachers should have more authority to punish pupils—but he urges restraint, and prefers to let a committee decide on the definition of power.

He suggests two innovations, a pupil-representative for each class to assist teachers, and the equivalent of a student union for senior forms which would air views and arrange extra-curricular activity.

Under the aegis of local authorities, school boards should be drawn from parents, teachers, other school personnel, and pupils.

These proposals toll the death-knell for school-based councils, introduced to promote "democracy" and "participation" but now largely discredited and defunct.

The councils' founding father, Mr Erkki Aho, director-general of the National Board of Education, defends the comprehensive school by maintaining that it has opened up new opportunities for pupils and that indiscipline would be still more rife under the old, less egalitarian pattern.

Mr Aho is himself disillusioned with the workings of school councils: cynics attribute this to the failure of council members to fit neatly into his Social Democratic mould.

Neo-Nazism is again causing ripples in West Germany. Susannah Kirkman

looks at how history teachers tell their classes about the Third Reich

The struggle to live with the past

BONN: Is the recent alarming growth of neo-Nazism in West Germany the result of ineffective teaching about the Third Reich in schools?

As evidence of burgeoning right-wing extremism mounts, teachers, politicians and the press are again hotly debating this perennial educational issue.

Last week police raided flats of right-wing extremists throughout Germany and recent surveys show one in eight Germans hankering for a "Führer", and one in three having strong antisemitic prejudices. Thirteen per cent of the electorate has an extreme right-wing outlook, according to a survey commissioned by the Chancellor's Office in 1979, whose findings have recently been disclosed.

These figures are disputed, but according to Home Affairs Minister, Herr Gerhard Baum, membership of neo-Nazi groups rose by 20 per cent in 1980. The number of crimes committed by neo-Nazis has doubled since 1978.

There is also evidence of pro-Nazi activities by teachers. A history teacher in Lower Saxony issued sixth form pupils with a book entitled *The Basic Concepts of the National Socialist Creed*, first published in 1938.

"The Jews should all have been hanged," a Hamburg teacher is on record as saying during a recent public debate.

Each fresh neo-Nazi scandal produces a wave of criticism of history teaching in schools and there is evidence that young West Germans are frighteningly ignorant of the recent past.

When pupils were asked to write an essay on What I have heard about Hitler, they described him as "an Italian general in the Thirty Years' War", as "a genius", and as "an eighteenth century man".

In another survey, a third of the schoolchildren questioned agreed with the statement, "If it had not been for the war, Hitler would have been one of the greatest German statesmen".

In 1977, after nine young army officers had burnt effigies representing Jews at a private party, the Ministry of Education urged teachers to handle the topics of Nazism and German war-time resistance "with particular thoroughness".

But teachers feel they are being used as scapegoats, and point to other factors such as rising unemployment for the growth of neo-Nazism among the young.

One report has indicated that most children receive their first abiding ideas about the Hitler era from their parents and grandparents. "From my parents I've heard that if Hitler were still alive, the world would be quite different," wrote one child. "There would be fewer unemployed."

These early impressions can be difficult for history teachers to dislodge. They also have to find the right balance between giving their pupils too negative and guilt-inducing a view of German history, and yet explaining clearly and honestly what happened between 1939 and 1945.

All the different history syllabuses laid down by the states include mention of the Third Reich, but give only very broad outlines. It is up to teachers themselves to decide exactly how to present the facts.

Most of today's teachers are free of the inhibitions of their older colleagues, many of whom experienced the Third Reich and afterwards preferred to hold a view of history which stopped at 1917, and are helping to develop new methods and teaching materials with which to approach the difficult subject.

Older history textbooks are coming under fire for their dull presentation of events. The intense interest aroused by the screening of the American television series *Holocaust* proved that accounts of everyday life during the Nazi period do far more to awaken a response than dry factual accounts, and among the teaching materials now being recommended are *The Diary of Anne Frank* and *The Tin Drum*, by Günter Grass.

Pupils are being encouraged to imagine the feelings of ordinary people who lived through the Third Reich, and to analyse the behaviour patterns of people between the wars. In order to understand feelings of insecurity and insignificance which led people to join the Nazi Party. The theory is that they should then be better equipped to recognize similar trends today.

A national schools' history competition this year has as its theme, "Daily life under Nazism", and entrants are supposed to use contemporary documentation as the basis for their



Then and now. One in eight Germans are said to hanker for a Führer. Last week police raided 450 flats of far-right extremists and took away a large haul of Nazi propaganda.

people who lived through the Third Reich, and to analyse the behaviour patterns of people between the wars. In order to understand feelings of insecurity and insignificance which led people to join the Nazi Party. The theory is that they should then be better equipped to recognize similar trends today.

A national schools' history competition this year has as its theme, "Daily life under Nazism", and entrants are supposed to use contemporary documentation as the basis for their

entries. But the problem with this more lively documentary approach to the period is that many official papers of the period have been destroyed and some newspapers are reluctant to open up their archives and reveal their political positions during the war years.

In addition teachers are finding that people who were alive during the period are loathe to talk about their experiences to school children, even if they were opposed to Nazism.

Italy/Rita di Giuseppe

Rome law orders a paper a day for secondary pupils

VERONA: The city of Rome has passed a law which calls for the reading of daily newspapers as part of the secondary school curriculum.

The law is following a policy first set in 1978 by the province of Trent and is now being implemented by almost all of Italy's 21 regions.

Attitudes towards these moves vary. Those who declare themselves shocked (about two thirds of the schools adopting the policy) feel that it is an indispensable part of education and social studies.

The idea, enthusiastic however, point out that most teachers are ill-equipped to teach the particular skills necessary to read a paper. Nothing is more boring for students, they say, than leaning through the daily press, guided by teachers who are themselves bored by this activity.

Efforts, however, are being made to teach the teachers, and many guides have been published on specific reading skills. Recent language textbooks all include special chapters dedicated to reading newspapers.

But Italy still has one of the lowest reading rates in Europe. While 40 per cent of 100 Spaniards read at least one book a year, 36 out of 100 Frenchmen, and 69 out of 100 Swiss, only 24 out of 100 Italians manage to get through the same amount of print.

In addition, the number of Italians who read a newspaper on a daily basis has not changed much since 1950, when 64 per cent of the population never read a newspaper while the remainder "looked through" a daily at least once a day.

France/Jane Jessel

France steps beyond computer age

PARIS: A two-year plan of action to accelerate the development of modern technology in French Education has been unveiled by Education Minister, M. Christian Bouleac.

The plan builds on pilot experiments already carried out in the so-called "50 lycées" and "10,000 computers" operations (7ES, May 9, 1980), and will not only widen and increase the use of computerization in education but also develop what the French call *électronique* (the marrying of computers and telecommunications), and audio-visual techniques.

The total cost of this expansion is estimated at 250m francs (about £ 23 m).

By 1986 all general lycées should have been equipped with computers under the "10,000 computers"

experiment. The new programme will extend the operation to the colleges, the first stage of secondary education, for pupils aged 11 to 15 and to the technical schools.

From the school year beginning next September an experimental option in data processing will be introduced in 10 lycées and 10 colleges, with the eventual aim of including it as a new subject for children aged 13 and over.

This was recommended in a report published last year (7ES November 7, 1980) and teachers are currently being trained for it. But M. Bouleac made it clear that progress towards its full implementation would be "slow and careful".

The programme also includes experimentation in the different uses

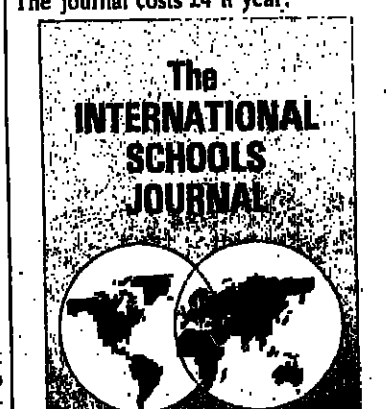
International/Hilary Wilce

International schools get own journal

A new twice-yearly journal catering to the interests of the ever-growing number of international schools was launched at a Rome conference last week. The International Schools Journal is being published by the European Council of International Schools.

The first issue contains a lengthy article by Mrs Shirley Williams on education for international understanding. Other articles look at the international baccalaureate, computer studies, schools in Rome, and fund raising in international schools.

The editor of the journal, Mrs Edna Murphy, says she hopes to cater for schools interested in international relations, as well as international schools. The journal costs £4 a year.



First issue of the new Journal.

Mexico/Emil Zubryn

Educational TV to be launched

MEXICO CITY: Mexico has announced that it will launch the first national educational television network in the world in 1981. All the equipment is said to be ready for this nation-wide venture.

In the past Mexican television has failed in its educational goals, according to Ms Margarita Lopez Portillo, head of radio and television at the Ministry of Communications. But from now on television will become "an extraordinary resource to orient, educate and train all Mexicans".

Ms Portillo insisted that television will no longer be classified as an "idiot box" but will have beneficial influence on the lives of Mexican citizens.

The educational network is planned to be operative by January next year

and the first series of eight transmissions towers is now being installed. Programmes to meet "the intellectual capacities of the rural population" have been made.

Previous attempts to launch educational radio and television ventures, however, have always fallen far short of expectations.

Admitting that Mexican general television is "excessively" commercial, Ms Portillo nevertheless claims there has been an improvement in standards.

The Government has asked, and received, the cooperation of liquor interests, to limit the television advertising of wines, beers and alcoholic beverages, in an attempt to stem the heavy tendency to alcoholism in Mexico.

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Letters

BEd keeps general and professional options open

Sir, — Dr Judge (*The TES*, March 13) is too hasty in dismissing the BEd in favour of a four or five year course of teacher education the first three of which will have only an accidental relevance to what many teachers actually do.

Dr Judge should also not perpetuate the myth of other first degrees "of a more generally marketable kind". It cannot be too often repeated that unemployment amongst BEd graduates in 1979 (a year of high "supply") was around 9 per cent. This compares with around 10 per cent for science, 7 per cent for social administration and business studies, 3 per cent for engineering and technology, 13 per cent for language, literature and area studies, 15 per cent for art, design and music, and 12 per cent for other arts degrees. Since few BEd students would be able to shift to business or engineering, it seems that students did better as BEd graduates than they might have done on other first degrees.

There is a further factor which sixth formers and their advisers should consider. All concurrently trained teachers are now graduates. Like the holders of other professional degrees, they can apply both for jobs in the "general" graduate market and in the professional for which they have prepared. There is already evidence, as stated by Professor Lawrence in your column last October, that the BEd graduate with demonstrable skills of communication, ability in personal relationships and proven professional reliability at least comparable to those of any other graduate with a first degree, is gaining increasing acceptance in this field of graduate employment. He or she has kept both general and professional options open.

Finally, Dr Judge states that sixth formers will not choose the BEd route when they might instead take a degree "in subjects of their choice". For our undergraduates primary education and physical education are the subjects of their choice. For other students other degrees are suitable; but for those students who want to study and to practise

education, the BEd should survive and flourish.

M. G. BRUCE,
Dean of the Faculty of Education and Movement Studies,
Thames Polytechnic.

Sir, — I would like to add my comments to those of Harry Judge and your various correspondents regarding the BEd degree. Harry Judge presents a cogent argument for a two year period of professional education for teachers, but he ignores the question of the effect of a five year period of qualification on recruitment to a profession where there is little likelihood of the financial rewards and status accorded other professions.

There is an alternative to the concurrent or consecutive patterns as they are traditionally conceived and that is the pattern offered at this college. We train teachers for the 3 to 13 age range and, like many other colleges, feel that a "professional year" is not the most suitable way of preparing such teachers. However, we are aware of stringent constraints of economy, viability and employability and yet are keenly concerned to produce teachers of high quality who are sensitive to all kinds of people and critically competent professionals.

We have moved, therefore, to a four year honours degree programme, the first two years of which provide a common base for a BA in Organization Studies and a Dip Ed. Thus we have an integrated but flexible programme which enables students to follow a coherent four year programme where their developing commitment to teaching can be confirmed alongside students pursuing a slightly different career orientation, but where responsiveness to the market is still possible for both the students and the College during the four year programme.

Like many others, including your correspondents, we feel that teaching involves knowledge, skills and attitudes which are highly valued by employers in a variety of fields but that the BEd is undersold to industry. It is precisely

because of the importance of those qualities of sensitivity, organization, initiative etc. to a variety of careers involving working with people, that we are able to offer a four year course which is neither academically nor professionally narrow and produces teachers of a high calibre with the ability to work effectively with a variety of groups of parents and children in inner city schools.

In training teachers for the 3 to 13 age range we emphasise the value of adequate conceptualization and analysis of problems together with imagination and initiative in reaching towards solutions. We need to practise what we preach in considering our own situations, nationally and locally. We need to get out of the traditional and simplistic BEd v PCEB rut and bring teacher training into the real world.

BARRE FITZPATRICK
BEd Hons Course Tutor,
Bradford College,
Bradford, West Yorkshire.

Sir, — Mr Judge's strategy for teacher training (March 13) is excellent as far as it goes. It structures the training for the entrant to the teaching profession in a manner which would have been attractive for us "old hands".

However, what he leaves out is a structured situation for the teacher once he has entered the profession. As Head of a large comprehensive school, who urges his staff to take up in-service opportunities, I frequently regret the absence of a structured pattern for in-service training and for fixed points in a teacher's career where he could be guided back into the academic milieu.

In my own career, this recharging process has been carried out by part-time diplomas and degree courses and, maybe, this is an effective way for the ambitious teacher. But in looking around my staff I observe teachers — as competent (and I say it) more competent than I who would greatly benefit from a return to the academic situation either to bring their learning up to date or to revitalize their philosophical background. In some cases one is able to persuade them to participate in the

part-time approach but, knowing the real stress and hardship this creates for them and for their families one is hesitant to press it.

At this time of restructuring — on the lines that Harry Judge suggests — I do hope that this aspect of training is not neglected. Granted that where there is no vision, the people perish; the slow deaths by erosion of enthusiasm and competence in teachers is less spectacular but more insidious.

M. I. DAVIES,
Headmaster,
Robert Clack Comprehensive School,
Dagenham, Essex.

Sir, — In spite of the pessimism expressed in Platform (March 13) there is no need yet to lament the demise of the BEd. If market forces are ruling the day then it ought to be noted that the consumer still wants and is opting for the BEd degree.

This year we have 11 students applying for BEd as their first choice out of a total of 169 applying for first degrees. They may prefer to do so for a variety of reasons: most of them want to teach in primary schools and see the concurrent study of educational and professional studies as a vital component in preparation for teaching; they are attracted by the study of more than one subject especially with diminishing career prospects; they are inevitably drawn by the lower A-Level requirements offered and they may also prefer the size, accommodation facilities and geographical position of the College itself.

As far as I know few, if any, of our students willing to study for a BA or BSc want to teach; of course they may well decide to do so later. There is obviously a degree of uncertainty about future job prospects in teaching but our students are presently embarking on their BEds with optimism.

It would be mistaken to swing the pendulum towards the PCEB and consign this valuable degree to the pit.

PETER ALLBN
Hous Tutor,
King James's College of Henley.

Charging up

Sir, — I was surprised and stoked by your report (*TES*, March 13) "Head charges unprofessional conduct".

It was clearly, and of necessity, a one-sided and tendentious account of a dispute between a head and three members of his staff; of necessity because the head was honourable enough to act on his union's advice that the matter was effectively *sub judice* and this he pointed out to you. Moreover, your reporter also contacted me and received the same story, a fact which he failed to report.

Mr Robinson could have dragged your three informants through the courts with union support, as your report makes clear, but he chose not to bring them or the school into dispute. He could have told you about many charges made against him by Mr Humphrey which have been rejected by the union's law committee, but he chose not to plough a member of his staff in public.

Such professional integrity is, it seems, of little concern to you but, when three teachers fail to show such regard for their school or their profession, they are given a free platform by your paper.

MALCOLM HORNE,
Executive Member (Outer London),
National Union of Teachers.

Mr Horne's only comment when our reporter spoke to him was that the matter was *sub judice*; it therefore added nothing to what the head had to say. *Sub judice* is of course a term which has a strict legal meaning when applied to pending proceedings in a court of law, but not when applied to the deliberations of NUT committees. — Editor

Public image

Sir, — If Nick Grant's concern about the NUT's public image is genuine, his divisive letter (March 10), full of innuendo and half-truths, linking together quite disparate incidents, is hardly likely to improve the situation. However, if, as it appears, his letter is merely an attempt to by-pass union procedures and create further confusion and division, he should be honest enough to admit this.

He and his friends in Lambeth are well aware that a properly constituted and elected national disciplinary panel has met and reached a decision on the facts as reported to them by both sides.

It is a gross insult to the elected members of that panel, drawn from various parts of the country, to suggest that they did anything other than investigate the issues thoroughly and tried to reach an honest verdict.

Since this decision is subject to an appeal Mr Grant knows that it is impossible, in the interests of justice, for any statements to be made about the alleged breach of discipline by any members of that panel or by any officials or members of the National Executive of the NUT. This has not prevented Mr Grant and his friends from flooding associations throughout the country with their version of events. It would be wiser, and less divisive, to await the outcome of the appeal before making hasty assumptions.

Mr Grant knows that this issue could easily be raised at the Union's forthcoming Annual Conference where the democratically elected representatives could hold a full debate. It is so afraid of discussion by the full membership through the usual procedures that he has resorted to one-sided propaganda in the public press.

DAVID A. TURNER General Secretary,
Sheffield Teachers' Association (NUT),
28 Victoria Road, Brothall.

MACOS anyone?

Sir, — As part of an MEd course at the University of Warwick, I am investigating the principles of curriculum design. I should be grateful to hear from any teachers working with children in special schools or comprehensive schools who have used MACOS.

B. LINDSELL.

Booklist to clear 'remnants of imperialist attitudes'

Sir, On March 20, the TES published a letter from B. Shaw expressing disturbance on reading an article by David Lister called "Increasing Awareness of Racism" (March 6).

Before this correspondence goes any further I would like to set the record straight.

The librarian in the North London comprehensive school mentioned, requested the Secondary Curriculum Development Unit, who had been invited into school, to assist her in "weeding" the geography and some of the history sections of the school library. The main subject areas of the books to be assessed were in the area of the history of European expansion to the "new world". She asked for their opinions, particularly on Euro-centric, imperialist attitudes expressed in these books.

Aware that many other school librarians were wrestling with the same problems, the librarian at that school, had two years previously asked for assistance in this task from the ILEA Librarian Advisers, suggesting that an annotated list might be circulated, the annotations to show the strengths and weaknesses, thus helping us to make informed decisions and save valuable time. Although expressing sympathy with this idea, nothing emerged.

I, therefore, asked the SCU to help me to start such a list which I hoped they would circulate to other ILEA schools asking them to add to it and pass it back. The annotations were to be brief. They were not to be recommendations or condemnations, but analyses of content. The librarians who received the list would know that it was compiled with the particular, but not exclusive, criteria of ridding ourselves of the tattered remnants or our imperialist attitudes. At no point did the SCU "ask the librarian and head teacher if (a book) could be replaced by a book of their recommendation".

So far this list has not seen the light of day. However, I feel I have benefited from the experience of the SCU in making better informed decisions on what to keep and what to discard — a continuous and essential process in library management.

I would like to reassure B. Shaw that the fact he finds disturbing, that the SCU were "asking that those (books) of which they disapproved be replaced" is untrue.

Selection procedures and criteria used are necessarily subjective. I rely heavily on teacher recommendation. I read a great many reviewing journals. I trust most those reviewers whose bias I know. Finally I "look at" as many of the books I order as I am humanly possible. There is not time to read sensibly every many of the 2,000 odd publications a year I buy or the large number I discard, having no clerical or professional help. Most ILEA librarians are in a similar position. The exercise I proposed to the SCU had no more sinister intention than to help my colleagues and in turn be helped by them to make better informed decisions.

HILARY G. EMBLING,
Librarian,
Haverstock School, Chalk Farm,
London NW1

Sir, — Several letters were published on March 20 commenting on my earlier article on abuses of multi-ethnic education by the race industry, and the headline used was "Racism: no imaginary spectre". I should like to make it clear that I have never been so naive as to claim that racism in this country today is imaginary, but I do claim that it is largely artificial, not at all the same thing.

Mr Richards accuses me of simplifying

the economics when I claim that the slave trade was the major factor in the prosperity of many West African states and says I would not say similar things about Europe. Well, my native city of Dundee flourished because of the jute trade, Lancashire had cotton, the Ruhr Valley had heavy industry and Prussia had wheat.

In order that I might remedy my alleged ignorance of the subject, I wish he had given details of "the scholarly analyses" which show that "tribalism" is an artifact of colonialism. As a child in Scotland I once heard an adult say of someone, "Oh, he's all right in his way, but he is a Campbell, you know." Does Mr Richards believe that the clan rivalries of the Highlands were an artifact of the internal colonialism directed from Westminster?

Also, will he please be specific about the "racial theories" developed and used in official circles to argue the case for slavery and colonialism? Is he aware, for example, that the 1853 constitution of Cape Colony, dominated by "racist" British, set out a franchise open to all men of whatever colour who possessed the necessary property qualification, a condition already applied in Britain? The Cape Coloureds in Cape Colony continued to have and to use the vote until after the Second World War when the Afrikaners, not the British, deprived them of it. I am not an apologist for the British Empire but credit should be given where it is due.

Mr Siferer claims that there is a difference between white racism and non-white racism. This is as absurd as the claim of many Communists some years ago that the United States hydrogen bomb was a "dirty" one

and the Soviet bomb was a "clean" one.

When I was teaching in a London comprehensive I, like the starchy-eyed liberal I was, once chaired a sixth form debate on race. After the debate the deputy head boy, a West Indian, stayed behind and said to me, "Mr Hastie, if some well-intentioned teachers in this would only shut up about race, the kids themselves would forget about it." I felt as though I had been smacked across the face with a cold, wet dish-cloth, but on reflection later I had to agree with him. Since then I have always avoided talking about race in isolation, but have not ignored it where it has been relevant to the matter in hand. I wish more teachers would do the same.

Yes, Mr Siferer, I do claim that the race industry bears a grave responsibility as one of the major factors in promoting race consciousness in our adolescent population, thereby stimulating racial violence in and out of school. That is why I was compelled to write as I did.

There are two possible approaches to race. We can ignore it as irrelevant and look upon one another as members of the human race, with all the rights and responsibilities of human beings. Alternatively, we can be divisive, emphasising the rights of this or that part of the human race, constantly underlining differences between the parts and dwelling unduly on evils of the past instead of the benefits of the harmonious multi-racial society we could build now. We all have a choice. Which side shall prevail?

TOM HASTIE
74 Monmouth Road, London SW11

who pays so little attention to the improvement that his money will permit in the product, nor in the return, financial or by any other measure, that it will generate.

ANDREW TURNER,
22 Northam Gardens,
Oxford.

Testing demands

Sir, — There seems to be quite a lot of "Mike Raleigh" in the TES, with the second full-page article (March 13) during the last few months. I have not met Mr. Raleigh, although I must assume he is a young whiz-kid type of chap whose views deserve an occasional airing.

I think it high time Mr. Raleigh and his friends realise that the demands he makes upon the examination system are quite unrealistic and quite impracticable. I shall be grateful, therefore, if you can

educate our adults, there will be little point in investment in industry for there will be insufficient people willing and able to provide the wide variety of skills and knowledge needed to operate the system.

The demand for education is falling in one respect only. There are fewer children in schools and the decline will continue for some time. There is no doubt that savings could be made in our education service but why do we always have to take the quick, easy and potentially disastrous way out. It's easy to reduce teaching posts by natural wastage.

It is easy to make children draw pictures in the three primary colours rather than the full range of colours and shades. It is easy to do colour and swirling lessons. But, is it sense? It's that it has been derived along a reasonable line of argument which is independent of the other estimates of heritability derived from alternative sources of evidence.

Professor Mackintosh concludes that "Reasoned truth will emerge from the cut and thrust of debate only if that debate is altogether more inclusive and involves more interaction than anything on offer here." In a way, of course, this is inevitable, as the debate is essentially based on issues of considerable complexity in genetics, statistics, and psychology. All that can be done in a popular book is to put down the logic of one's position in simple terms. I have argued my position in considerable self-critical detail in *The Structure and Measurement of Intelligence*.

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allow me to make one important point, namely, that the boards are limited in what they can do. They should seek to assess, in terms of an order of merit, what individual pupils produce at particular times, on particular days, during a very short period of their school careers; and into this process the whole of any board's expertise and resource should, in my view, be channelled.

Such assessment, as we all know, may be unfair: pupils have their off-days; some of them are bad examinees; a few of them are physically below par on the days in question. But it is not the Boards themselves who pretend that the grades awarded are the last-judgment verdicts of the recording angel on the pupils concerned.

What the boards cannot do is to incorporate into their judgments the whole gamut of pupils' school achievements — achievements which, as 16-plus, will have stretched over 11 years. It is my wish, therefore, that Mr. Raleigh and his friends should seek to reduce the importance of examination results rather than noxious us with his demands for mixing oil with water. In my view, Mr. Raleigh would be more profitably occupied in devoting his talents towards some adequately acceptable school-based assessments which are reported quite separately, since it is the dubious nature of some of these assessments which has led public opinion to believe that an examining board is slightly more trustworthy than teachers assessing their own pupils in their own schools.

N. C. DEXTER,
Oxford Delegation of
Local Examinations,
Ewerly Place,
Summertown.

No representation

Sir, — The TES (reported March 20), that it is unlikely that the National Union of Teachers will be represented at the CATEC conference on May 17. In fact no teachers' associations or unions will be represented as CATEC is an organization for individual teachers. I know, however, that among the many hundreds of teachers who have written to support the Campaign are many NUT members, some of which have indicated that they will be at our conference.

CATEC is very much an ecumenical movement — it has to be to embrace both Mr Norcross and Mr Mitchell-Lambert, who would probably differ over many aspects of education! They, and all our members, to whichever union they belong (they are not delegates) are united by one belief, however; that self-government for teachers through a General Teaching Council is the most important single professional issue for us today, that 95 per cent of teachers want a GTC and that a consensus concerning its duties and composition must be urgently found.

ROBERT BALCHIN,
Chairman Campaign for the General Teaching Council,
7 Ridgmont Street,
London WC1.

Otherwise engaged

Sir, — The interesting and shocking article by Ian Jones on the Stinger case calls for some comment. First of all, it should not be assumed from his remarks about the legal powers of local education authorities that all I.E.A.s are hostile to education under the "otherwise" provision. Some will accept it without demur and even cooperate and provide help, and many others will tolerate it, in the majority of cases. Only a minority of I.E.A.s are openly hostile and try to coerce parents into submission with threats of court action and, very often with misinformation about the law.

Ian Jones raises the question "At what point does the State have the right to intervene to protect children from parents' ideological, or behavioural, excesses?" The answer to this question ought to be "at no point, except where a child can be shown to be in grave physical or moral danger"; for who is able to lay down convincingly whether an ideology or religion or life-style is "excessive" or not? Any such attempt can only lead to the sort of intolerance and interference in human liberty that one associates with a police state. Equally there is no social consensus over what are the signs of education and even, less about the best means to achieve them. If such a consensus can be forced, forcing families to conform to methods about which there is no agreement?

The law is vague on this point and its enforcement the important implications. The relevant section of the 1944 Education Act (Section 36) states: "It shall be the duty of the parent of every child of compulsory school age to cause him to receive suitable full-time education, either by regular attendance at school or otherwise."

None of the key words used here is defined in the Act (except "compulsory school age" and "school") or in subsequent Acts. There have been many of these since 1944, including the major Education Act 1980, so there has been plenty of opportunity for the Government of the day to introduce definitions if they were felt to be necessary. The fact that they have not done so is a clear indication that this silence is not an oversight or omission but is intentional. What it implies is that parents, upon whom the primary responsibility for children's education lies, should have the maximum possible freedom to interpret these words in their own way, and that education outside school should not be restricted within narrow limits. The criteria should be, quite simply, any interpretation that "reasonable people can hold" and should not involve conforming to some "expert" determination from above.

Some I.E.A.s attempt to use this vagueness in the law to introduce their own restrictive criteria, and in some recent court cases the magistrates, confused no doubt by the complexity of the educational argument, have played safe and supported them. We now await judges' rulings in higher courts to clarify the issue, and we confidently expect that they will come down on the side of the individual family's right of choice.

In the meantime, anyone who is in trouble with their I.E.A. on this issue, or who is contemplating education under the "otherwise" provision, should seek advice as early as possible. It is the purpose of this organization to provide a mutual support network for such families and to share advice, information and experiences.

DICK KITTO
Education Otherwise,
18 Synham Road,
London W12.

Remedial facts

Sir, — I am sorry that J. Robbins has decided to write you such a sour letter without ascertaining the true facts, otherwise he could hardly have drawn such erroneous conclusions about remedial teaching in the county. In the circumstances, I must assume that his political rather than educational considerations. There has been a very considerable increase in real terms in the resources provided for special and remedial education every year, including the difficult forthcoming one of 1981/82, since 1973/76. For next year, despite quite swinging and irrational cuts in community education (nearly 20 per cent), advisors (34 per cent) and music and the arts (25 per cent) the committee specifically insisted that the very substantial remedial reading team of seven teachers should remain unchanged.

Robbins asserts with confidence that hundreds of children in this county "are being individually tutored" "at almost expense to their parents". He is wrong, or ill-informed, on both these counts. With a total of 45 full-time equivalent teachers of music for 5,000 pupils, it will be seen that teaching in groups at schools, or in the case of instruments like percussion of bassoon at the Central School of Music in Leicester is essential, and is of course what actually happens.

Parents of the 1,000 or so children in the orchestras, bands and ensembles practising centrally on Saturdays, in term, or for a week each holiday, or when touring and giving concerts at home or overseas, pay £30 a year towards the overhead costs, plus the additional full cost of the three holiday courses, and a large part of the cost of

the tours at home and overseas. In addition, they meet the very considerable cost of their personal instruments — hardly "at no expense to their parents"; but perhaps J. Robbins is not interested in finding out the truth, only perpetuating the myth that the small amount of money provided for music and the arts is at the expense of unspecified "unprovided essential services".

We remain convinced that if, on top of these fixed costs, we were to charge children for lessons, then the very parents and children about whom he is so concerned about would be denied absolutely the instruction which their talent cries out to receive. As it is, with the help of the Friends of the School of Music, it is possible to ameliorate these fixed costs so those who can't afford them can participate fully in all the activities of the School of Music necessary to the development of their musical talent.

The main point about my appeal for music and the arts, which J. Robbins deliberately ignores, is that faced with a reduction in provision of 25 per cent of all costs in music, drama and dance education, unless the money is raised and put in a charitable trust, then 30 years work building up the Leicester School of Music, and the complementary stimulation of instrumental music in the county's schools will cease. That will certainly not be the case so far as remedial education in the county is concerned!

So I welcome the rather oblique publicity this correspondence affords me to invite all your readers who cast their eyes down these columns to send me £1 or more made out to LAMA (Leicester Appeal for Music and the Arts).

ANDREW FAIRBAIRN,
Director of Education,
County Hall, Leicester.



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Talkback

Undervalued overworked Caroline Gibbs

The recent report on the training of nursery nurses. (TES Feb 20) reveals the criticisms that were reported to the panel of inquiry over the preparation of nursery nurses for work in day nurseries. The Department of Health and Social Service and the British Association of Social Workers, among others, told the panel that the NNEB training does not properly equip nursery nurses to work with the type of child admitted to day nurseries.

The panel threw the ball into the social services court by saying that it was the job of the NNEB to provide a general training "concentrating on the child as a whole, in his family and social setting", while it was the job of social service departments and the day nurseries themselves to provide further training and induction into the problems encountered in working with children from deprived and disadvantaged families.

This dispute is the inevitable outcome of a changing day nursery admissions policy, which has not been matched by changes in staff training (apart from the suggestion that newly appointed nursery matrons should have a Certificate in Social Work).

During the war, and immediately afterwards, day nurseries provided day care places for the children of working mothers from "ordinary families". During the 1950s and 1960s, there was a deliberate reduction in the number of day nursery places available, since the prevailing view was that mothers of young children should be encouraged to stay at home.

This reduction in the number of places, together with the transfer of responsibility

for day nurseries from local authority health departments to social services departments in 1971, means that children from families with severe social problems have had priority for admission.

The intake of an increasingly disadvantaged client group into the day nursery has led to a lowering of its status. As a result, unlike nursery school staff who are convinced of the positive value of their work, day nursery staff tend to have no great confidence in theirs.

Working with the most disadvantaged children - and their families - can have a severe effect on staff morale, and this is aggravated by numerous discrepancies between their pay and working conditions and those of nursery teachers. Day nursery staff work a longer week than nursery teachers, get less pay and have shorter holidays.

This disparity is a particular problem in the setting up of integrated nursery education and day care provision for under-fives in combined nursery centres, where teachers and nursery nurses work side by side in conditions quite different from those of nursery schools or day nurseries.

The position is a topsy-turvy one in which the most disadvantaged children are cared for in the most poorly supported type of provision. Because of the admissions policy, staff (many of whom are in their late teens and early twenties) have to face the demands of children whose behaviour, development and emotional adjustment are often far from normal.

The effect on already disadvantaged children of being cared for by staff who feel under-valued, under-paid and over-worked, with the associated lowering of morale and energy, should be of great concern to all those interested in care and education for the under-fives.

Another change in social services policy for which little or no training provision has

been made is that of the increase in emphasis on working with parents in the day nursery. Helping depressed adults through counselling is a role for which many social workers are not adequately trained, and yet nursery nurses are expected to be able to cope.

Unless day nursery nurses are given help in developing the necessary skills, this policy, which is sound in theory, will fail to work in practice and will be written off as an unrealistic fad.

It must be the first priority of the new nursery nurse board, when it is convened, to open up a dialogue with the DHSS and social service departments on in-service training and support for nursery nurses in our under-resourced day nurseries.

Caroline Gibbs is a research officer at the Institute of Education, University of London, and co-author of *Combined Nursery Centres*, published last week.



Educating the majority Greta Akpeneye

The tragedy of British society lies not in the fact of racism but in the attitude of people like Tom Hastie ('Encouraging Tunnel Vision', 6th March). No government policies or commissions set up to solve problems caused by racism can be effective as long as the majority of the indigenous population, like Tom Hastie, refuse to face reality. They are intimidated by the suggestion that their society is racist and, with worn out arguments, try to convince themselves and the world that racism is what happens in the United States but not in Britain.

When Tom Hastie suggests that "The racist conditions and attitudes which prevail" in the United States and Africa are "transferred to Britain whose traditions and history are different", he must have temporarily forgotten that period of history when British imperialism took the British tradition and history to their expanding empire in places like the United States and Africa.

Anyone in Britain who makes a statement that "Race is rightly ignored as something irrelevant" is surely guilty of racism. How can a person's race be irrelevant in a world of passports and official forms which ask for "country of origin"? Far more important than officialdom are the differing customs, languages, ideas and appearances, which are largely a result of race.

What is racism but the inability to show respect for another race, and indeed to grant to other races the same humanity as that given to one's own race? Can any person say that the majority of the British respect the

minority groups and treat them with the respect they would show one another?

I would join with Tom Hastie in objecting to the statement: "Most white people in Britain have some form of racial prejudice, the result of their upbringing and education. It would amend it to read: 'All people in Britain have some form of racial prejudice, the result of their upbringing and education'."

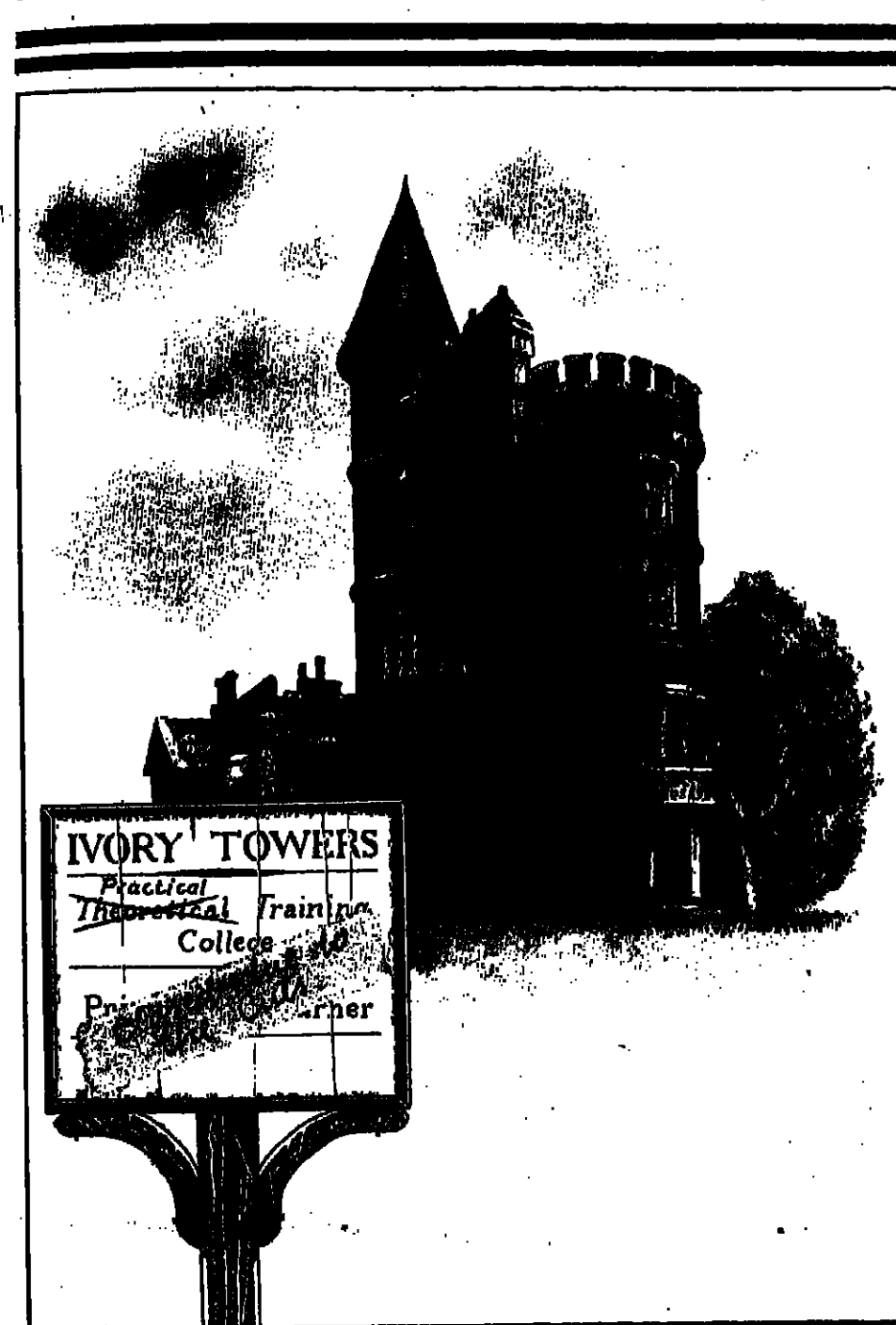
If teachers pursue a policy that regard race as irrelevant, they will be guilty of the continued promotion of racism.

It is not the actions of the "morally and mentally crippled" who are overtly racist which constitutes the major racist element. It is the constant wearing away of confidence, the denial of other cultures implicit in the general disregard for anything not British, the suspicion, fear, and embarrassment caused by lack of knowledge and the pressure from the society to change, conform, behave like the British or fail.

Race is NOT irrelevant. Without racism, there would be no need for the CRE, a multi-cultural inspectorate. Because these organizations concentrate their efforts on minority groups, they fail to make any significant impact. Just as women and the working classes will fight to improve their conditions in the society, so all minority racial groups will fight for their rights.

It is the majority who need educating, we need the help of the race relations organizations; minority groups are well aware of racism. Those in the majority group who look, refuse to face the truth, and content themselves with whining words, which generally imply "History shows that all races have practiced some kind of racism, why should we be the only ones to be blamed?"

May I suggest a far more useful and positive approach: "British society is racist, what can we the British do about it?" Greta Akpeneye is head of English, Priory Park Girls' School, Lambeth.



In a climate of severe cuts with a threat of another round to come, survival for the former colleges of education has become a predominant concern.

This is understandable to a point. Recent developments, such as the two A level entrance requirement, have seriously threatened the supply of students to certificate and BEd courses. In their place, the degree plus PGCE route grows in popularity.

For colleges of education, this presents a basic logistic problem: simply put, BEd courses run for three or four years, whereas PGCE courses run for one year only. Unable to increase their PGCE numbers substantially, and often unable to diversify further, colleges must seek a solution in devising more relevant and distinctive BEd degrees which are, above all else, marketable.

There seems to be one common response which is alarming: BEd courses are becoming more narrowly vocational, more professional, more to do with training. They seek to offer an attractive practical route to teaching, as an easily identifiable alternative to the academic route afforded by the degree and PGCE.

Further, they appear to promise jobs to would-be applicants by dichotomizing the needs of schools: schools need academics to teach the top streams, and professionals to teach the bottom streams. The analysis is appealing, but hardly new. It is nothing less than a restatement of the training college rationale; a return to the old pattern of stratification between university departments of education and training colleges.

The idea of academic teachers for the able pupil, and trained teachers for the less able, is disturbing enough. But what is more disturbing still is an underlying convergence between the two. In reverting to their training role, colleges are shedding their relatively recently acquired status as educational institutions. They are increasingly becoming places where "how" to do take priority over "what" to teach.

There are a number of possible reasons for these developments. Primarily, colleges seem to have over-reacted to the climate of opinions, fostered by Labour and Conservative administrations, that BEd courses converge with PGCE courses, which have always tended to emphasize practical training.

Of course, there is a wide-spread resistance to the need to expose and discuss assumptions in professional practice and in experiential courses; teachers and college lecturers feel uneasy about having to reflect upon their hard-won experience. Yet overwhelming evidence exists to show that, in general, schools are not succeeding in educating the largest proportion of their pupils. The

staff into theoretical academics and practical educators. These factors have added to the already familiar split between theory and practice in education courses. We want to argue against these trends, which we regard as retrogressive and damaging.

The present trend towards professionally-oriented courses runs against a mounting body of evidence which demonstrates that professional practice does, and must, involve all sorts of beliefs and assumptions about children, their motivations, their interests, culture, capacities, family background, and so on. Some elements of professional perspectives are, of course, well-thought-out practical judgements about what is effective in classrooms.

Other elements, however, consist of stereotypes about particular sorts of children and their families, of dubious views about motivation, communication, and discipline, and even of rather cynical or resigned strategies for getting through the day or career building. Professional studies courses themselves contain even more vital semi-explicit assumptions and beliefs which affect, for example, the selection of examples of good practice to be discussed.

When these examples are to be applied by students in particular schools, all kinds of assumptions are involved again - about the requirements of pupils and staff, about school organization, and so on. All these assumptions can be seen as pre-theoretical. They're often left implicit, but they are of crucial practical importance. The wrong assumptions can lead to an unthinking commitment to one definition of good practice, or, more likely, to the creation of all kinds of unintended consequences.

Only by theorising can students and others examine and reflect upon these assumptions. Thus, the choice is, not between theory and practice. It is really a choice between being bound by implicit pre-theoretical assumptions, or operating as a teacher with explicit, testable and well-grounded assumptions.

Of course, there is a wide-spread resistance to the need to expose and discuss assumptions in professional practice and in experiential courses; teachers and college lecturers feel uneasy about having to reflect upon their hard-won experience. Yet overwhelming evidence exists to show that, in general, schools are not succeeding in educating the largest proportion of their pupils. The

David Harris and Les Sharpe argue against trends in teacher training courses which are reinforcing the familiar split between theory and practice

Retrogressive and damaging

campaign against the cuts has diverted attention away from what used to be recognized as a crisis in education. Existing professional perspectives are at least partially responsible for the crisis, and there is now a serious doubt about the new progressive curricula and pedagogies as solutions to this crisis. Nevertheless, many colleges still see the answer to the educational crisis in the provision of ever more detailed and lengthy professional, experiential courses, often with a heavy emphasis on the new approaches.

Former colleges of education must have a distinctive role in the education of teachers. They should neither duplicate the role of schools in this process, nor should they associate themselves uncritically with the views of government, the profession or any other interested party. Education courses should involve a critical distancing.

A college course represents a chance for intending teachers to be reflexive, analytical and critical (without being totally negative) about what goes on in schools and what is desirable in education. This chance must be exploited to the full: for many teachers it will be their only real chance to think about teaching systematically away from the pressure of everyday work in schools.

Several implications follow from this view of the college's role. For example, teaching practice should become a kind of participant-observation activity, instead of a straight-forward induction into the teaching profession. This view involves a re-thinking of the current slogans about the need to link schools and colleges more closely, especially if these slogans lead to students being prepared for full and uncritical participation in teaching as seen at present.

We are not arguing simply for more conventional theory courses in colleges: these are often notorious for their pursuit of topics of internal theoretical relevance, which can ignore the positions from which students start. Real professional activities of actual teachers should be the material which is theorized about, at least initially.

So, for example, the issue of classroom discipline, which concerns most intending teachers in our experience, could be dealt with by students researching current disciplinary practices in actual schools, and being helped to theorize about discipline by college lecturers who can

contribute actual materials (not anecdotes) on theories of motivation, on pupil involvement, ethical arguments, research on unintended consequences of disciplinary practices and school rules, and so on.

Such analyses would not undermine students' confidence. On the contrary, it would help them to become much more confident, reflexive, discriminating and effective in their chosen use of disciplinary techniques, and more realistic in their knowledge of the constraints on practice.

Above all, theorizing as an activity must cease to be treated so apologetically. The often-heard complaint that theory does not fit practice must not be allowed to divert attention away from the problems of practice, as if often the case. Experience, and those professional practices based on it, is far from being above criticism; selective experience, and idealized practice even less so, as we have argued.

Colleges must encourage sophisticated and balanced criticism of professional practices. This must be the rationale for their continued existence, and it must be stated positively and confidently.

Persuading staff and students to abandon the safe realms of professional perspectives, and to engage in theorising, will be as difficult as ever with the new students. But the alternative is for colleges simply to reproduce selected professional perspectives found in schools, in a mistaken drive for vocational relevance and marketable courses.

The net result of this might well be to turn the clock back to the days when teachers were technicians, armed with a handful of tips, recipes and examples to complement their subject expertise, and expected to adopt a fossilized set of values at the opposite end of the spectrum from most of their pupils. Trained in this way, many new teachers would be completely unprepared for the crisis that awaits them in many schools.

New teachers rapidly acquire professional perspectives as soon as they begin to teach. All the more reason, then, to use the time in college (especially for post-graduates) to prepare teachers to think for themselves, to decide which elements of a range of professional perspectives should be adopted, and which abandoned or changed.

David Harris and Les Sharpe lecture in sociology at the College of St Mark and St John, Plymouth.

Control or repression? Caroline Elton

"It's March 18. It should not take you 240 seconds to put out your homework and get your tongue under control so I can dismiss you to go to the closet."

This particular teacher taught in a 100 per cent black elementary school in inner city Philadelphia. Recently I observed him and his class over a two-month period.

The school was in the American equivalent of an Educational Priority Area. The neighbourhood consisted of decaying houses and urban wasteland. The building was dubbed on the outside with graffiti quite intelligible to an outsider. There was no trace of these mysterious squiggles once inside.

The corridors were covered with a collection of "instructional" posters exhorting children to brush their teeth, read books, etc. There was a conspicuous absence of black faces on these posters. The only immediate sign that pressures from outside found their way inside the building was that all doors - even the lavatories - were locked.

I observed a top-stream, fourth-grade class (9- to 10-year-olds): 32 children, an equal number of boys and girls. The streaming had been based on results in standardized tests in maths and language skills. While this particular class came in the top 5 per cent of the country, most of the other children came far below the national average. The teacher was male, white and in his mid to late 30s.

On my first morning the children were standing on their tiptoes, solemnly reciting the Pledge.

One nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all. If the irony escaped the children, it didn't escape me. I grew immune to it after a number of weeks.

What struck me most during the first few weeks was the all-encompassing control that the teacher exerted over the class. The children did not talk among themselves or stir from their seats without first being given permission.

Even more surprising was that the small details of behaviour - from the manner in which the children hung their coats to their posture in a seat - for the most part were under his scrutiny. Some-

times he even controlled access to the lavatory during break, by asking children to spell a word before he would excuse them. If they got their spelling wrong, they were still allowed to go.

For a number of weeks I was very disturbed by what I had seen. I saw the teacher's behaviour as his attempt to "civilize" his pupils, as if he believed that they were lacking in basic social skills. However, this tale would not be very interesting if it ended here. Who doubts that many black children, receive their education from teachers who assume that their pupils are in some way deficient?

When I began to look at how the children responded to their teacher, I realized I had misjudged him. I noticed that the children often brought things from home - letters, magazines, puzzles - to share with their teacher. The class also showed enormous persistence with and enthusiasm for their school work. For example, it was common for them to do extra homework on top of an already heavy workload.

I began to see that the teacher had a very great respect for his pupils, and for their families. He often stressed that parents, brothers and sister were good sources of knowledge that should be tapped. He would also never let his pupils accept that something was too difficult for them.

Then why the rigid pattern of control, if the teacher had this respect for his pupils? First, as every activity that went on in the classroom came under his scrutiny, no child could ever entertain the idea that their teacher didn't care.

Secondly, the teacher often attributed good school work to good behaviour, so that a correct answer might be attributed to correct posture, while a wrong answer would be explained in the opposite terms. In this way he was able to explain to the children why they made mistakes, without casting doubt on their inherent ability to succeed.

This is not intended as an apology for the education that many black inner city children receive. Neither am I suggesting that strict teaching is the answer, for this is an exceptional teacher with an equally exceptional class.

From visiting this classroom I learnt that tight control is not always synonymous with repression, or an indicator of a lack of understanding on a teacher's part. Equally, a white teacher in an all-black classroom doesn't necessarily spell disaster.

Caroline Elton is a student teacher.

Victims of breakdown Bill Boyle

Paul is eleven, normal, football crazy, Liverpool fanatic, enthusiastic, competitive, any game, any time. He represents his school in every sport possible, from chess through cross country and athletics to football.

He has just been placed on a supervision order by the local juvenile court for breaking into the neighbouring primary school with another boy. His father is in Risley, awaiting trial for butting his mother in the face and beating up Paul's elder brother, when he intervened to protect his mother.

Paul has witnessed these assaults on his mother regularly for at least five years. The father is moved on by the police (after each disturbance) only to break back into the house once the coast is clear, when he needs a few hours for the night, or whenever the mood takes him. The local social worker described the back of the house, doors and windows, as resembling the aftermath of shellfire.

Paul has heard his father say repeatedly that he is going to kill Paul's mother before he finally goes. Paul's younger sister often

takes a knife to bed and sleeps with it under the pillow. On nights when the father breaks in, often at two, three o'clock in the morning, Paul, his two brothers and two sisters, all huddle together in the mother's bed.

Sometimes there is no trouble, and the father moves on quietly when he has better things to do. At other times, he picks a quarrel with the mother as an excuse to beat her up, being careful to lock the door, so that one of the boys can't run to phone the police. On many of these occasions, one of the boys gets between father and mother, enraging the father to the extent that the child usually gets beaten too.

Paul is only one of the increasing number of children appearing before the courts with such experiences. These cases appear to be the result of a disturbing increase in the incidence of family breakdowns. Unemployment appears to be exacerbating the problem. Young marriages, possibly small children to cope with, already foundering for economic reasons, now have to make major readjustments, as the male sees his role of provider diminished, or denied him.

Paul's case, and the others like it, throw into relief the question of the forming of children's attitudes. The effect of authority figures upon Paul's behaviour is enlightening. There has to be a relationship between him and the adult (be it teacher, social

worker) before he will respond to, or even accept, instruction, help, guidance.

There is likely to be a violent outburst if he feels that he is being spoken down to, treated with contempt (the father up to the moment of feeling he is sneered at by his mother, the social worker an inadequate provider). His level of tolerance is very low. He is over-cautious, in the extreme, in relating to people.

He has erected his own personal survival wall around him. Every month the wall gets higher. Will the lessons of his home life provide him with his models for adult behaviour? Who can mould these children's attitudes strongly enough to overcome these primary influences?

As unemployment increases, how are we to educate the young to accept failure? At our schools, our teachers, even aware of the need to cope sensitively with the increasingly demanding role of surrogate parent?

Most social priority schools have very little more than their walls. As we cling to all back and forth, sympathetic notices they stumble into our juvenile courts, increasing numbers? Or is a genuine attempt being made to educate the family along with the child for their changing role in a rapidly changing society?

Bill Boyle is head of English, Manor House School, Birkenhead, Merseyside.

Network

£1.95, available from bookshops or (plus 35p postage) from Inter-Action Imprint, 15 Wilkin Street, London NW5 3NG tel. 01-267 9921.

■ The winter issue of the quarterly *World Studies Journal* focuses on the Brandt Report. It includes an edited version of Willy Brandt's Marshall Plan Memorial Lecture on the challenge of the Report to today's educators; a piece by Lady Young on Education for International Understanding; another by Lord Elton on Education for Human Awareness; and a concluding article by Jonathan Porritt of the Ecology Party on Education and The Politics of Ecology. Copies (price 85p, or £2.50 for three copies a year) are available from the Business Manager, 11 Beacon Street, Lichfield, WS13 7AA, tel: 054 31 31159.

■ *Coping with the System*, a brief citizens' manual, has been written especially for school leavers and students whose first language is not English. The section on children and education covers the under-fives, choices of school, preparation for jobs, and interviews. Other sections deal with money and benefits, housing, health, consumer, law and politics. The booklet is co-published by the National Extension College and Inter-Action. Copies (price

£1.95) available from bookshops or (plus 35p postage) from Inter-Action Imprint, 15 Wilkin Street, London NW5 3NG tel. 01-267 9921.

■ The spring issue of *Forum* includes an article on educational standards and the cuts, in which the principal of an upper school and community college relates the topic to the Assisted Places scheme. There is also a symposium on the theme "Reflections on Children's Learning", and a piece on the campaign to retain 11 to 16 schools in Manchester. Copies (price 85p, or £2.50 for three copies a year) are available from the Business Manager, 11 Beacon Street, Lichfield, WS13 7AA, tel: 054 31 31159.

■ *The Manifesto for Change* published on January 10, in the TES, is now available in off-print form, free of charge. For copies send a stamped addressed envelope to: The Editor (Network), or Ring 01-837 1234.

■ "Community, Culture and Classroom" is the theme of this year's annual conference of the National Association for Multi-

racial Education, to be held on April 14-16 at the City of Birmingham Polytechnic. It has been chosen to challenge, thinking about the way we do the community and how we use it as our most important resource in the "room". The keynote address will be given by Dorothy Kays, race relations and ethnic advisor for Hastings. Further details from Madeleine Blakey, General Secretary, 23 Dole Lane, Pindar, Derby, tel. 0283 702848.

■ Children at Mount Pleasant School, Southampton, have been working on a photographic project which has resulted in an illustrated booklet, *Come to Kingsland Market*, published by Southampton Community Relations Council. Working with a photographer-in-residence, John Harrison, the children took and printed the photographs, and wrote and edited the accompanying text. The book will be of particular interest for those working with children whose mother tongue is not English. Copies (price £1 including postage) available from the CREC, 100 Brook Road, Southampton, SO2 0BW, or 0703 29646.

features

Disarmament is the third most popular subject for discussion at the forthcoming NUT conference. Rick Rogers reports on moves to get the 'nuclear option' into the mainstream curriculum.

Arms and the child

"In such a struggle, each side would have the capacity to inflict upon the other a degree of devastation which has never before in human history been either possible or imaginable. An armed clash involving the interests of either side is, therefore, likely to lead to the virtual destruction of both and not merely to conquest or defeat. In the light of these considerations the Government have come to the conclusion that education could not be continued in the sort of conditions expected to follow a nuclear attack."

That description of the ultimate education cut comes from a 1964 Ministry of Education circular 3/64, called *The Education Service and Nuclear Attack*. It deals almost exclusively with how school buildings could be made use of in

the aftermath of a nuclear attack on England and Wales. They would become information, first aid and community care centres. The children, it is assumed, would either be in shelters at home, or dead.

This circular remains current policy, although copies are unobtainable—it's too old. One regional emergency planning officer has called the circular "dangerously out of date". The Home Office is working on a review of such policies and hopes to present the DES with the next circular to issue sometime next year. It seems, though, little will change, except that the decimated school meals service can no longer be used for "the emergency feeding of the civil population"—the 1964 intention.

Yet how many schools give children the opportunity to learn and discuss the issues surrounding nuclear weapons—and why such circulars are published? The evidence reveals only a few do so, but that many schools would like to, given the right kind of materials—and courage.

There are problems for schools when they take on such controversial issues. Simon Fisher, director of the World Studies Project, put it thus: "A small minority of teachers are trying hard to do the subject in an honest way. Those who do agree to teach it will have strong views either way. The best method is to treat the nuclear issue as a dilemma in which children can explore and test out their own set of values."

Nevertheless, a growing number of secondary schools are beginning to provide "a nuclear option" in the mainstream curriculum. Usually the issues turn up in world studies, development or peace education courses; they have been given added impetus by the Brandt Commission's recommendation that schools should give much more attention to international problems.

The Groby community college in Leicester—a 14 to 18 comprehensive—has gone further than most schools by offering a *Conflict and Violence* CSE and GCE exam course. A *War and Peace* course includes project-work options on the history and aims of CND, the 1962 Cuban missile crisis, the pros and cons of deterrence and disarmament, a thought-sheet on *The War Game*, and writing a story on "My last four minutes".

Many students at Groby belong to CND and Peter Watkins' television documentary film *The War Game* is screened regularly for students and parents. All students require written approval of a parent in order to see it—there has been only one withdrawal in the past three years.

Elsewhere, the Joint Matriculation Board (JMB) includes a *Twentieth century warfare* course in its GCE O level integrated studies syllabus, which provides the chance to study nuclear warfare. A York university general studies project for schools also contains nuclear material (published by Longmans), as does *World in conflict*—part of a Thomas Nelson/World Studies Project series.

Otherwise, discussion of nuclear issues might come up in history, moral or religious education lessons. A science syllabus might deal with the general principles of how nuclear weapons

work.

Even a few primary schools touch on nuclear war through songs and drama. One south London primary school recently held a drama lesson on preparing for a nuclear attack, with the children piling desks and chairs against doors and windows. Not surprisingly, several children became extremely upset.

Schools broadcasting has not handled nuclear warfare at all, although the BBC is considering it for the *Scene* series for 14-to-16 year-olds, to go out in Spring 1982.

In Britain, there is little official help for ensuring that such issues are tackled "in an honest way"—if at all. In contrast, government grants in the Netherlands support peace education courses in schools and information packs on nuclear war. In the West German state of Hesse, where political education is a compulsory school subject, there is a special course on the neutron bomb.

It is through peace education that the nuclear issue is most likely to develop. Various departments of peace studies have now opened up in universities and other higher education colleges, such as Bradford and Lancaster. Their influence is spreading into schools.

The Leverhulme Trust has been sponsoring a three-year peace studies project for secondary schools at the Atlantic College in Wales. According to Simon Fisher, there is "a strong groundswell of peace education teachers, especially in city schools, who haven't quite got together yet as a unifying national group". But that is coming.

At the same time, many young people in schools are taking their own initiatives. Schools Against the Bomb (SAB) was set up in March last year. A group of young people at a north London independent school started things rolling after a screening of *The War Game* at the school. SAB has now spread to other state and private schools throughout London and outwards to Oxford, Cambridge and a handful of schools in Wales.

The basic intention is "to explain to schoolchildren what the issues are". The attitude of SAB's members, as summed up by one founder-member, Samantha Taylor, is "pessimistic but not fatalistic—the fact of doing something makes you feel much better". The group is developing a type of protest-pedagogy.



'Proper little trouble maker, aren't you?'



CND demonstration, vintage 1958.

Are they merely a consolation prize for pupils who reject the schools' curriculum and values? Why is the government suddenly interested in this form of assessment? Bob Doe reports on pupil profiles

For low achievers only?

Profiles are said to provide the motivation and sense of purpose lacking by those who will not shine in public exams. But are they just a fashionable panacea, the technical and financial implications of which have not yet been fully realized?

There is clearly widespread and powerful

backing for broadening the assessment of pupil achievements. Schools are clamouring to take part in the field trials the Schools Council is planning, and the idea has the support of the TUC, the CBI, the Government and even the European Commission.

But how far does this apparent unanimity go? There are considerable differences about exactly what pupil profiles are, and about who and what they are for. Are they merely an appendage to the exam system? Or do they represent a fundamental shift away from the academic curriculum, that in the past has left even some of the ablest unable to communicate effectively, and devoid of a whole range of essential life skills?

The general idea behind profiles is that every child finishing their 12 years of compulsory schooling should have a piece of paper saying something about their achievements and attributes that will be of some use to an employer or a college. But the title *profile* has been applied to a whole range of different ideas and schemes.

These include profiles of exam performance, in which the separate skills tested by an exam are graded separately. At the simplest level, for instance, this could mean a foreign language mark would be split up into separate

marks for oral, comprehension, translation, reading and writing etc. Most exam boards are computerised, and could probably handle the listing problems, though most employers would probably simply add them up again and take an average.

The Swindon Record of Achievement is another scheme that has been called a profile. It concentrates much more on recording pupils' own accounts of their experiences and achievements both in and out of school. What goes into it is left very much up to the pupil though it has been found that "low ability" pupils often needed a great deal of help in filling it in.

A Schools Council evaluation of the Swindon RPA found employers had little faith in it, however, and cast doubts that are now widely held on any scheme designed solely for non-examination classes.

Another idea is that teachers should give profiled reports about pupils' characters or personalities. This raises a number of issues about fairness, objectivity or even practicality. Are teachers equipped to make such judgements? Do they get to know individuals in large classes well enough, and would their standards be reliable or comparable?

There must be serious doubts about the

anonymous letters to the national press declaring the organisation to be infiltrated by the extreme Left, and a banned television slot on Thames Help programme. The main national aim, through petitions and marches, is to persuade the BBC to show *The War Game*. Next month they will hand in a petition to the BBC.

SAB's reception by teachers has been mixed. Some schools have readily provided access to duplicating equipment and classrooms for meetings. Others have refused all help—a few to the point of banning the group completely. Since SAB has only recently become "an official membership body" (annual subscription £1), its numbers are as yet thinly spread. But they are growing—as are the ranks of CND.

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament is the inevitable focus for the renewed interest in the nuclear issue, as much for young people in school as for adults. CND has just formed a youth section, and there are now more than 30 young CND groups, with a total membership topping a thousand. Youth CND produces its own magazine *Second Generation* and, conscious of the sparse funds of schoolchildren, has fixed a discount membership fee of 50p, instead of the usual £2 for young people.

The War Game film has become a potent recruiting aid both for CND and SAB. The irony is that many more people have probably now seen the film than would have done had the BBC not banned it from a television showing in 1965. However, the BBC did release it for cinema and club screenings.

The British Film Institute—one of several organizations that loans copies of the film to schools, colleges, film societies and pressure groups—says it is "virtually the single most heavily booked film in our library". CND has numerous copies for hire—and there is now a video-cassette version. The BBC has consistently refused to allow a print to be sold to any other television company—a common enough practice. But the film has been shown on American pay-TV networks.

Schools show *The War Game* at their own discretion—the British Film Board's X-certificates applies only to commercial screenings. However, some local education authorities insist that schools abide by the viewing conditions of such certification. (That can be problematic—several GCE set books have become X-films.)

For those who support the nuclear deterrent, there is, on the campaign side, the Federation of Conservative Students' *Peace through strength* campaign. Aimed largely at poly and university students, the campaign backs the government's nuclear policy and presses for a still harder line on defence issues. It will provide speakers for schools if asked.

In addition, there are the NATO-oriented and Foreign-Office-funded British Atlantic Committee (BAC) and the European Atlantic Movement (TEAM). They supply material and speakers on the nuclear deterrent and arrange visits to NATO headquarters. Their main clientele are the private schools, although both are trying to "get more into the state schools". BAC has some 50 school requests a month.

A 1980 NATO-sponsored survey of 16-to-19-year-olds in state schools found that "only

two-thirds" of students knew about NATO. The survey team concluded that there was "scant knowledge" of defence issues. Yet, the survey revealed a mix of sophistication and ignorance among the students, and provided as much insight into the narrow European preoccupations of NATO as into the attitudes of young people.

An independent trust-funded research group—the International Institute for Strategic Studies—offers a statistical service to schools ("mainly at sixth-form level") on arms, conflict and security matters. It tends to use the same speakers as BAC and TEAM.

Britain's nuclear policy will obviously be a major political issue for years ahead. That, and the government's current publicity campaign on civil defence and nuclear shelters, make a powerful case for ensuring that young people have a variety of views and information to hand when making up their minds about deterrence and disarmament.

Rick Rogers is education correspondent of the New Statesman.

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Centre for Peace Studies,
St Martin's College, Lancaster
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School for Peace Studies,
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Bradford BD7 1DP (0274 33466)

Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament,
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(01-263 4954)

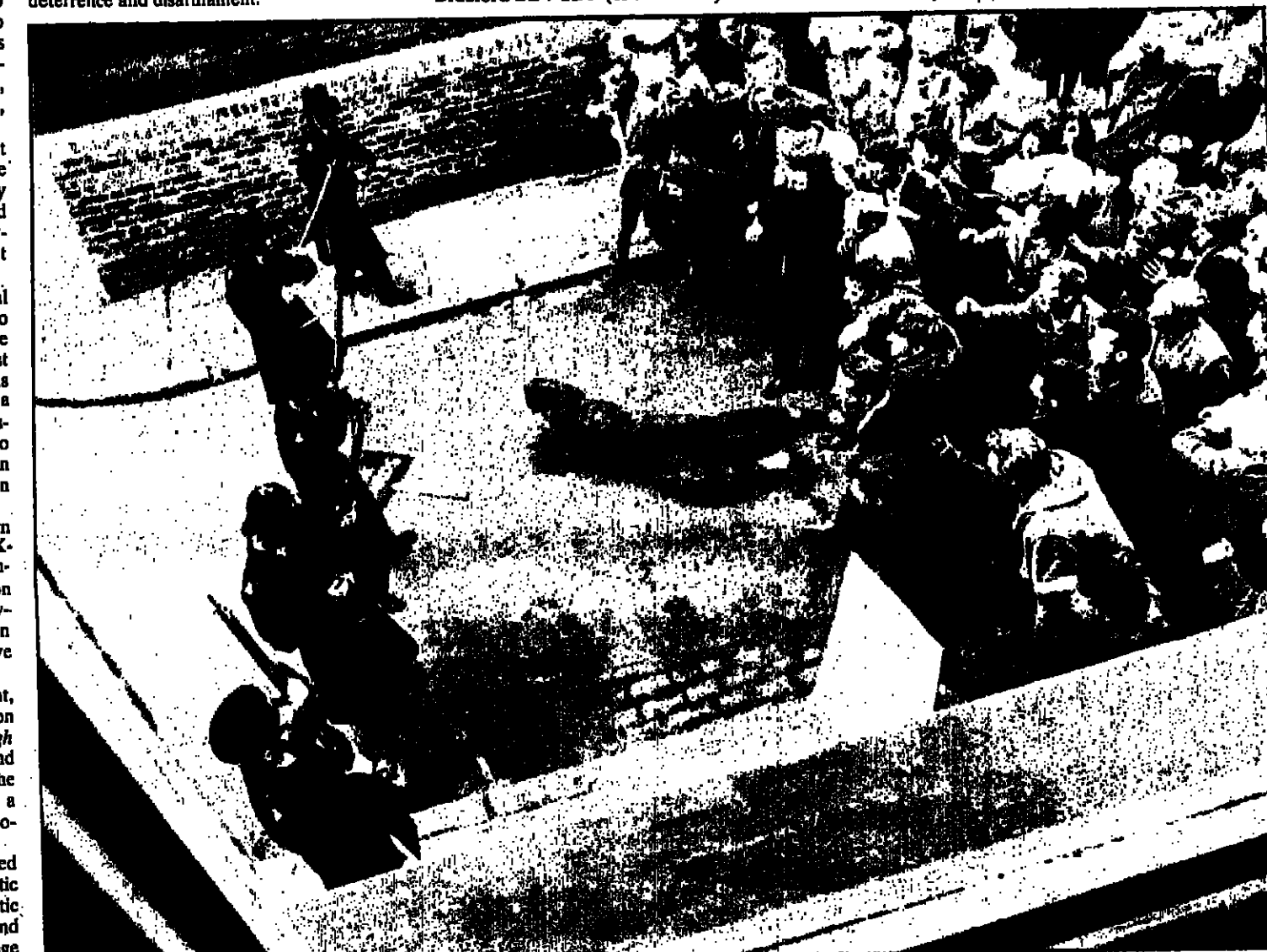
Schools Against the Bomb,
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THE BRITISH FILM INSTITUTE AND BBC TV PRESENT **THE WAR GAME** directed by PETER WATKINS

A still from the film that has become a potent recruiting aid for CND and Schools Against the Bomb.

relevance, let alone the fairness, of judging pupils against a school background they may be anxious to leave. Arguably their behaviour is as much a reflection of whatever the school is or does as of any immutable personality trait in them. The same individual might be transformed at work, and it is questionable to blight their chances with old smugness.

The Scottish Council for Research in Education developed a profile scheme for the Scottish Headteachers Association that suggested teachers should give estimates on a one to five scale of such things as pupils' perseverance; enterprise; reliability; confidence; carelessness; social competence; and leadership, as well as oral, written, graphic, aesthetic, numerical and manual skills. It never really caught on, however, largely because it involved too much teacher time and paper work. This is seen by some as the main drawback to all profile schemes.

More modest schemes concentrate on recording achievements in some of the more basic skills that are either below the level of the public exams, or not specifically tested by them. One well-thought-of example is the personal achievement record (PAR) devised at Evesham High School in consultation with local employers.

The Evesham PAR covers 60 language, maths, practical, personal and social skills employers might be interested in. To ensure all staff apply similar standards, each is fairly precisely defined.

Many of the PAR skills are those most pupils could be expected to achieve, such as "legible handwriting"; "can write simple sentences"; "good understanding of rules of number"; "can use simple tools safely"; and "is punctual". But because the Evesham PAR is aimed at a wider range of pupils, other skills are more demanding, such as "can give simple instructions in a foreign language"; "understands VAT"; "can type at 30 wpm"; "can work accurately from a drawing or pattern" and "can address an audience in public".

The credibility of the Evesham PAR has still to be tested. So far, a fairly wide range of pupils have opted to use it, and employers have backed it with suggestions and money. But it remains to be seen whether it can ever earn the kind of status reserved for examinations even amongst the staff and pupils, let alone employers, in a country obsessed with external assessments.

The support and encouragement of local employers is clearly vital to public schemes, and this may be one reason why the Evesham

PAR may not be directly transferable to other schools. But by concentrating on too narrow a range of skills related to immediate employment, there is the danger that profiles will fail to fulfil one of the other functions suggested for them—the provision of diagnostic information. This will increasingly be needed for guidance and selection if post-school education and training become much more widespread as jobs for school leavers disappear.

Profiles of achievement seem to have been conceived as a means of mitigating some of the bad effects of an outdated curriculum and exam system, rather than as a means of putting it right. Schools like Evesham High can hardly be blamed for that. They have to start where they are, rather than where they might like to be. But the Government seems to see, in records of achievement, a way of refashioning the status quo.

Initially, at least, ministers seemed to see them as an alternative qualification for the lower achievers, leaving the new 16-plus free to concentrate on traditional ability groups and content. So keen is the Government that it has pressed the Schools Council to start field trials before it has found out what is going on around the country.

The Government is unhappy with the

downward creep of credentials in which many more than the top 60 per cent CSE and O levels were originally designed for now take these exams. Ministers seem to see in profiles a justification for slamming shut the 16-plus at the sixtieth percentile.

Others do not accept this artificial barrier. John Tomlinson, chairman of the Schools Council, sees in the new 16-plus an opportunity for bold curricular reforms, bringing in many of the social, personal and communication skills absent from the present formal curriculum.

That battle has still to be fought, and profiles of one sort or another may well be pressed into service on both sides. But under a new style of curriculum based more on skills than knowledge, some form of profile may well be the only sensible way of recording pupil achievement. Profiles could also fit in with the Government's other concern over the 16-plus—that national criteria should be drawn up to make it clear what a pupil can do if he or she passes in a subject.

There are undoubtedly ways in which profiles could prove to be the answer. But in what form, for whom, and for what purpose, rather depends upon what the question is.

review

Fluttering fig-leaves

Kenneth Minogue in an ideological wonderland

Science and Sexual Oppression: Patriarchy's Confrontation with Woman and Nature.
By Brian Eastle.
Weidenfeld and Nicolson. £15.00 and £7.50.

Science and Sexual Oppression is really three books in one, and each is concerned with Sex, the easiest of all subjects on which to fall into nonsense. The first "book" consists of a sermon recommending that we should give up our aggressive, risk-loving propensities and learn to live rich intellectual and sensual lives of a more feminine sort. The differentiation between men and women ought to be replaced by equal caring and sharing; and the phallic world of male initiatives should give way to reciprocal relationships of continuous tenderness. Mr Eastle takes the view that the male position for such enterprises as climbing Everest, hurtling into space, or risking life and limb in sport or war is no more than a desperate attempt to compensate for the fact that males can't bear children and suckle them. The attempt not only threatens us with nuclear disaster, but is unnecessary, and Eastle recommends as perfectly realistic a utopia of sex, seminars and sharing.

Being a contemporary preacher, however, Eastle stiffens his sermon with an analysis of the human condition, which constitutes the second "book". He rejects Freud's penis-envy theory of feminine psychic development and argues that the really fundamental developmental problem faces men, who can only evolve into independent personalities at the price of a fatal distancing of themselves and their inclinations from their mothers. Such independence is a pyrrhic victory, for men continue to be faced with both pender

and penile insecurities. Unable to "parent", men set up their own protected realms of activity and achievement. They exclude women from these realms, and then declare women inferior because they cannot satisfy the values of the very areas from which they have been forcibly excluded. Even the recourse to such desperate remedies is insufficient to assuage male insecurity, and some of Jean-Paul Sartre's loquacious utterances about the voracious and demanding nature of the vagina are wheeled out to demonstrate the fright that really lies behind the swagger of the male.

At the heart of all known societies, with the exception of a few remote and lovable pygmies, there thus lies the curse of patriarchy, which is a structure of thought and institution designed to assuage the perverted aggression of men. Sexism is patriarchy's articulation in beliefs and attitudes. The epoch we inhabit is (of course) the crisis of patriarchy, because the rise of feminist movements has steadily eroded all those lingering male preserves, and men are left, as it were, with nothing but a few residual fig leaves which can no longer guarantee male superiority, but which yet stand in the way of the inevitable triumph of a more rational manner of enjoying human existence.

The theme of patriarchy is used as a key to explain the third of the "books" contained in *Science and Sexual Oppression*: a rather selective and popular intellectual history of modern Europe. The argument is that modern science began in the seventeenth century as another of those masculine redoubts designed to keep women in their place. The evidence consists in some metaphorical analysis about the supposedly "active" and "penetrating" character of the scientific enterprise,

and an argument that the early modern scientists were bent on destroying the old concept of Nature as an earth-mother and replacing it with a boring idea of matter as inert and lifeless. Nature was to be defeminised as one more frantic expedient in the war of the sexes. Eastle's historical thrust (if I may put the matter so vulnerably phallic a manner) sweeps through the Enlightenment and comes to rest among our Victorian forefathers who are praised for reviving a more active conception of matter in the theory of evolution, but castigated for their well known and unappealing idiosyncrasies, such as hysteria about masturbation and a propensity for performing cliterodecemies so as to diminish the threat of female sexuality to male self-esteem.

As a popular historian, Eastle tends to be snippy. He hops about from point to point deluging us with bits of information and keeping us informed of his feelings by a generous scattering of exclamation marks. The deeper problem, however, is that what he writes isn't history at all. It is merely a chronologically ordered illustration of his fundamental analysis of patriarchy in confrontation with (as the sub-title has it) Woman and Nature. The result is that he entirely misconstrues the arguments he is dealing with, since he is only interested in them as symptoms of the pathology he has discovered. The scientific presuppositions of a law-governed universe become "the patriarchal desire for 'law and order'" (my italics) which "if creation of life is a characteristic feature of what is female, the physicist desire to deny that life really exists appears to reflect a compulsive need to deny a 'feminine' aspect to the cosmos." There is no basis whatever for all these needs,

desires and compulsions supposed to animate the words of scientists who are usually simply advancing a theory, true or untrue, about the world.

Mr Eastle is, then, an exponent – and an entertaining one – of the modern art of ideological analysis. Life is discovered to be a struggle against oppression, and the oppression is unravelled in terms of the familiar abstractions: race, sex and class. Everything gets a mention, from fascism to the supposed white middle class envy of the sexual potency of blacks – a tribute, perhaps, to Eldridge Cleaver who (before being 'born again') produced some superb variations on this theme in *Soul on Ice*. Insecurity, especially among people mislabeled as 'the ruling classes' is Eastle's characteristic engine of explanation. The Marxist model lies in the background, as it inevitably must, but Eastle has some hard words to say about the masculinist bias of much Marxist thought.

One of the main difficulties of any such ideological project, a difficulty very much in evidence here, is whether these marvelously simple developmental typologies relate to the people we actually meet. Freud on libido, or penis envy, is really little less idiotic than those Victorian doctors who thought excessive sex threatened to dissipate the vital fluids. As we progress through Fromm's engaging theory of spiritual necrophilia (which was recently filmed as *Bad Timing*) to Mr Eastle telling us that "Patriarchal men are not women, desperately attempting to turn a felt negative into a resounding positive," we may well conclude that we have stumbled into an intellectual wonderland in which anything goes, and nothing connects with the way you and I lead our lives.

One out, all out

Colin Ward on the General Strike



The General Strike of 1926.
By M.A. Flory.
John Calder £11.95.
0 7145 3698 5.

In a rather odd phrase, the publishers recommend this book as "essential reading for anyone contemplating employment in the 1980s". They echo the verdict of the *Journal's* reviewer (6.9.81) of another recent book on the same subject (Anne Macintyre's *The General Strike in Wyndham's Eye* – witness History series) that "there is a need for the effects of recession and unemployment to be emphasized in today's children: the means are here".

Mr Flory has no doubt that today's children need to know. His final words are "Our children ought to be told more the heroic struggle of their forefathers to win better working conditions. It is a subject which is all too often neglected in our schools." He is more specific in his introduction about the reason for yet another book about the general strike: "When the General Strike of the 1920s begins, as seems possible, will the organised trade union movement, learnt from history, or will it begin to see the leaders and its history repeat itself? This book attempts to clear the fog which has long surrounded the great general strike of 1926, and should give a clear view of the future for all those about to be involved in the struggles ahead."

It is a history with a purpose, and he is all pains to push into the reader's face that the general strike was a battle in the class war, as though anyone would want to deny it. A virtue of his book is that he starts with the

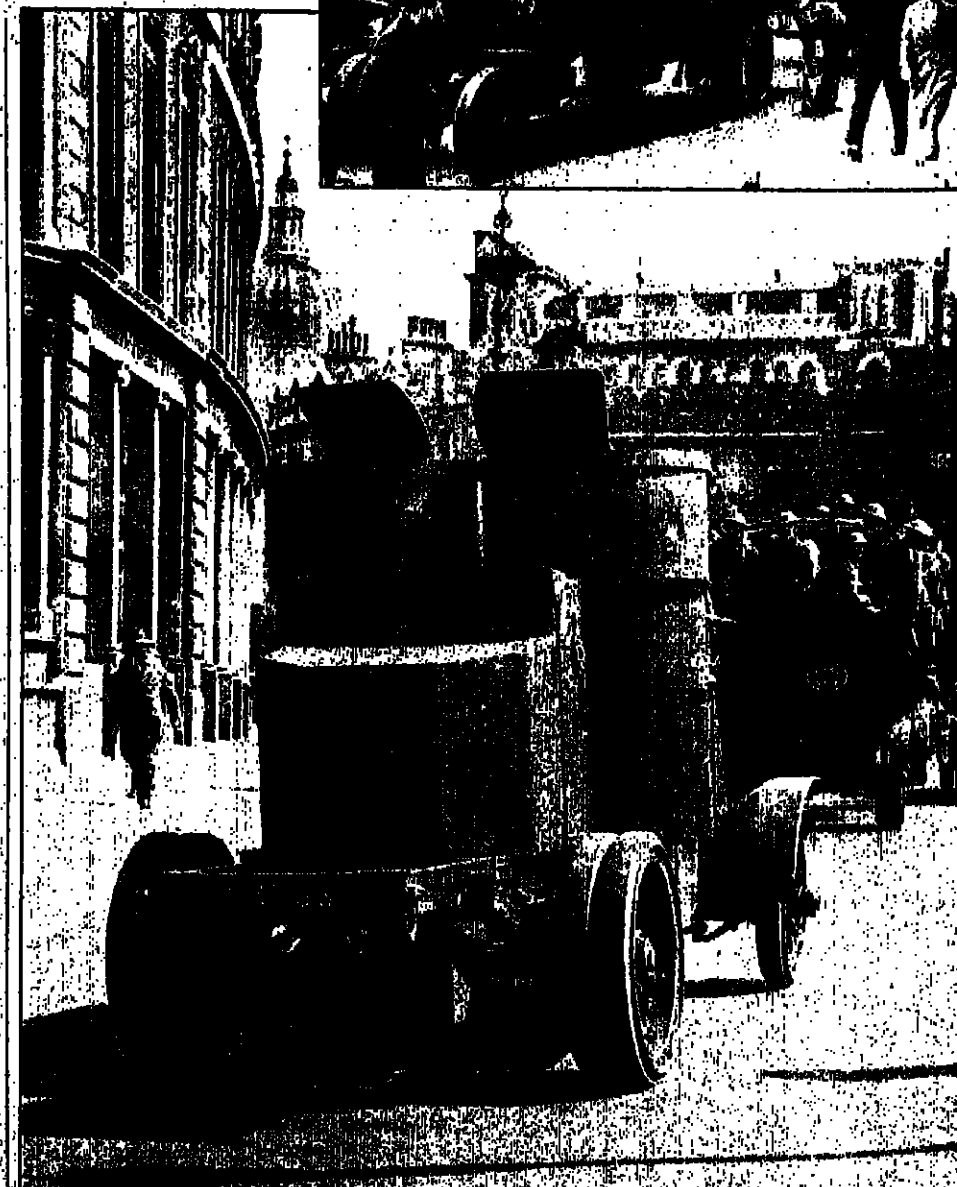
early history of the idea of the general strike and of the nineteenth century experiences of the coal-miners who were the key industry in the events of 1926. So he begins, not with the early months of that year, but with William Benbow's proposal in 1832 for a Grand National Holiday and Congress of the Productive Classes, and the way this notion continued into the twentieth century with the anarchist and syndicalist theories of the social general strike.

In the same way, since the reduction in miners' wages was the precipitating factor in 1926, and since the miners were the main victims of the aftermath of the strike, he goes back to the First Report of the Commission of Inquiry into the Employment of Young Persons in Mines of 1912, to trace the history of the coal industry itself, and he pays great attention to the triple alliance of miners, railwaymen and transport workers in the industrial unrest of the years leading up to the first world war.

He also pays a lot of attention to the emergence of Fascism in Britain in the 1920s: both the antics of the British Fascist, started by aristocratic ladies and the admiration for Mussolini expressed by prominent Conservative politicians at the time. I think he exaggerates the significance of these signs and portents, and since he is writing for the sake of the "struggles ahead", I think it is joyful if we can draw any conclusions about the current street racist movements from the evidence of the pre-war extreme right.

Maybe Mr Flory has another book in him where he will make the parallels for the 1980s that he hints at. At first sight this is a world away from 1926. In sheer numbers the miners have been reduced from about 1,130,000 in 1913 to 726,000 in 1975 and to a shadow of that figure today. And yet they are credited with the downfall of the Heath government, and their mere threat of militancy dramatically changed the policy of the present government a few weeks ago. To mind the best of all the books called *The General Strike* to put into the hands of students, is the one written by Julian Symonds in 1957. Symonds ended his narrative with his own answers to six key questions, the last of which is "Could it happen again?" He answers that the general strike can only be used as a political, indeed a revolutionary, instrument, and for such a use the General Council and the great majority of strikers were not prepared. And he adds that "Unless at some time a movement arises in this country with the object of overthrowing the government of the day, the General Strike of 1926 will remain a unique event in British history."

Will that day come? Mr Flory obviously thinks so,



Smuggled by the passing moon

Jenny Oldfield previews 'Come to Parkhurst', on Southern Television tonight

"Well, to put it absolutely bluntly," says the Guard/Doctor to the Prisoner in *Come to Parkhurst* – but he, like the programme proceeds to do nothing of the kind. Don't expect easy access to understanding here in John Neish's vision of life in prison and psychiatric hospital, expressed in rhymed verse which is often convoluted, only occasionally spicy and funny.

And director David Cohen offers little help in the spare, impersonal design of the piece, based almost entirely on Neish's words, with minimal explanation from the narrator. John Neish, we're told, is a poet. John Neish is a criminal, and he is mad. Like Chatterton, John Clare, Oscar Wilde and Ezra Pound. Oh yes. The rapid historical survey links madness and creativity, and reminds us that long before Neish, Richard Dadd was sent to Broadmoor. In a country air was supposed to be therapeutic.

Did John Neish murder his father, then? What terrible crime has condemned him to indefinite confinement? What personal angle might we discover on which to lodge our sympathies? Any evidence of McVicar-like self education, Jimmy Boyle-style



Kenneth Colley (right) and John Woodvine in "Come to Parkhurst"

tenacity would be welcome. Instead, we have two actors, Ken Colley and John Woodvine as patient/prisoner and doctor/prison guard, set down in a derelict hospital ward, against gentle piano music by Sattie. Limbo is suggested by the fact that prison is more the torture of endless waiting for, then actual arrival in, hell. But the officer is a sadistic stereotype ("Why don't you ask? We might say no.") and all the banging doors, barred wire, turning of keys and metal stairways in the National Health

scrapheap won't substitute for a single glimpse of a Strangeways landing. You will have some work to do. Your imaginations must set to on Colley tagging out a cell area on the hospital floor. You strain your comprehension from one poem, "In Sympathy", to the next, "Prisoners", through discourse about freedom and sanity, to a nice relief in "Hero's to Sauce", where tomato ketchup is an Event, and the camera leaps to the village pub and the seashore. The best poems are the most

poetic. "What it's Like" accurately reveals what it is that men in prison most miss: coffee, phone calls, wishing your daughter goodnight – "And you can't," says Authority in a flat refrain. A sense of humour in the midst of this is part of the essential survival kit and Neish reveals it in direct address to the camera. Rather be in prison?

"Answers please on a pound of snout Smuggled to me by the passing moon . . . I don't want to move you to depression. But . . ." the Prisoner contends. But – the camera on the man behind bars, the man walking in a walled garden, keeping to yellow painted lines in a yard; two men sport at a table in a dark room, the doctor popping a pill into the patient's mouth and taking one himself, all conspire to do just that. The programme reminds us of the creative mind which we lock away with the criminal and the insane one.

Any full-scale attention on the problem is proper, even fashionable. Perhaps John Neish's books of poems will outgrow their obscure origins in small publishing houses and his name join other reformed reclusives in answer to languishing circulation prayers.

But I don't think it is David Cohen's intention to create a cult following, and anyway, as Editor of *Psychology News* and producer two years ago of a programme highlighting the case of Diana Irons, the fourteen-year-old sent to Broadmoor for arson, his interest predates much of the current unrest.

It's a brave departure from fictionalized documentaries – cleaner, sparer, and relying on The Word. Ken Colley's lean anxiety, John Woodvine's substantial, half-mooned professional incompetence are well judged. But the words? Will you understand them without Cee-fax or the script in front of you?

Writing poetry in prison is common, from sentimental Valentine messages to endless epics on the savagery of Law. John Neish's work is better for it, has more insight and originality than any I've seen. But does it hold together 25 minutes of broadcasting time? I'm not sure. Or, to use the Guard/Doctor's words and perhaps prove the point:

To put it more precisely, I really must go to bed Before I actually decide what's wrong.

Ein Prosit for all
Gerald Haigh on Andrew Davies' 'Bavarian Night'

"It's this play," I said to my wife, "about a parent group holding a Bavarian Night with an Oompah Band."

"Oh, we've done all that," she said. That we have. Let me assure all sceptics that Andrew Davies' *Bavarian Night* (BBC1) was totally authentic. In every sporadic detail, right down to the regular breaks for the singing of such old Bavarian drinking songs as "Ein Prosit" and "You Can't Put Your Muck in Our Dustbin", and including the arrival of one of the players dressed for a Spanish Barbecue ("I thought it was Thursday").

I once talked to one such exponent of the instantly adaptable Euro-gig, and he assured me that they often had to sneak a look at somebody's ticket in order to be sure they had the right gear on.

Fun and games apart – and there were plenty, from the bare knees on the platform to the bare breasts in the infants' cloakroom ("Choose your peg, Joe") – this was a play with a darkling and disturbing centre in which the absurdly counterfactual nature of the "Bavarian Night" was seen to be arising from, encompassed by, and

echoing, the *essence* nature of the life around it.

Some of the characters were familiar enough. There was Joe Pike (Bob Peck) the successful writer, his failed marriage a pathetic relic of bright youthful days doing Eng Lit. And Alice, his wife, poignantly played by Sarah Badel, sexually independent and a little harder on the outside than he can really take. Their friends, too, sexy Arlene and ordinary Jim (Arwen Holm and Malcolm Parris), whose relationship is better than you think it is, had a familiar ring about them.

The headmaster, Godfrey Riggs, played with admirable primary school ferocity by Barrie Rutter was, of all the characters, the one who seemed to be pounding hardest up the down escalator. At the start we saw him struggling with two shop dummies bearing examples of the school uniform and prating on about "My parents". He stood up to exhort the assembled throng to enjoy themselves in aid of "the youngsters" and to hasten the day when St Peter's will be the only school in the area with "ITS VERY

OWN TRAMPOLINE!" His tailored leather jacket, by the way, was a nicely typical touch.

Later on, Riggs was reduced to eye-popping apoplexy by Alice, who asked him some questions about corporal punishment. Another evening spoiled, another bubble pricked. Of course, he was nothing like me, you understand. Oh dear me, no.

Seen from one angle, Davies seemed to be lashing out wildly in all directions; at pretentious values in school, at suburban territorial snobbery, at the horrifying sterility of some marriages in their middle years. In the end, though, the common themes were shallowness and uneasiness. Even the middle class vigilante group, formed by an angry BMW owner in a classroom during the shindig, found nobody to lash back when they went out on the street, and Alice said to Joe as she left him to the chattering of his electronic typewriter, "It'll all be material."

A disturbing play and yet a very funny one. Several moments – chiefly those involving the posturings of the headmaster, made me laugh out loud.

Berlin in Lancaster

The atmosphere was more like that of a street café than a theatre as Lancaster University recently, with crowded candle-lit tables down one side of the Great Hall and an intermittently empty balcony above, it was a suitable environment for a joint presentation by the London-based Actor's Touring Company and the University Theatre Studies Group of a musical play, *Berlin Berlin*, loosely based on Robert Mull's classic novel *The Man Without Qualities*. Set in Berlin in the present, the play is concerned with the tensions inherent in the division of this most divided of cities by its infamous wall and its position in the front line of a future European conflict.

This basically intellectual and symbolic preoccupation is better suited to the shorter touring version of the play than the more ambitious piece under review here: clarity of thought was often blurred and thematic links between large-scale scenes tenuous. Nevertheless, there was evidence that the student cast had gained a great deal from their experience of working with this talented and articulate company. The crowd scenes were impressive and the director, John Retallack, had made good use of the students' enthusiasm and spontaneity. An anti-nuclear demonstration swept the length of the hall to a background of atonistic drum beats and chants of "Atom Waffeln Nein Danke!" This was militaristic enough to be chillingly reminiscent of the Hitler Youth. The calm that followed this storm took on the ambience of a subway evening, as the students' exhausted backs, now playing the roles of strolling Berliners, headed for a bohemian restaurant which provided the background for a substantial chunk of the play.

Throughout the ensuing scenes, the students worked both as "characters" and as a kind of Greek chorus, expressing colloquial shock, disbelief and nervousness when confronted by an aggressive "modern terrorist". The play within a play and a sickening example of bourgeois gluttony (clearly heavily influenced by Bunuel) went on for too long. But even in these scenes, there was some vivid miming and the elegant control of the student actresses playing the bourgeois women was impressive.

Paul Sand, the musical director and composer, deployed the student choir to comment on and amplify the mood of the play. His music moved through a full range of emotion and the singers were completely professional in their response to the dramatic context.

The ATC cast gave consistently interesting and thoughtful performances. Denise Nixon's clever baroque of a warm-hearted Plat' figure was moving in its youthful extravagance and Chris Barnes's mime conveyed with dismal accuracy the endless gamut of life in a prison cell.

The evening represented the culmination of 30 days hard graft by the ATC and the Lancaster students. Between them, the company possess a wide range of theatrical skills and their friendly involvement stimulated the students to experiment and take risks. During their stay they put on an exceptionally varied selection of sessions on the different aspects of the theatre such as the adaptation of texts, mime, movement, the problems of touring, street theatre, skills and direction. Clearly, the company thrives on work of this kind, and makes use of workshop techniques to keep in touch with their audience and to demystify the entire process of "putting on a play". On the night, the quality of the crowd scenes and singing were evidence that long hours of rehearsal and close contact with a thoroughly professional company had been an enriching experience for Lancaster's students.

Lesley Lancaster

Cotswold note

Bernard Knight, ex-Scottish National Orchestra viola, founded the Cotswold Sinfonietta two years ago, with the aim of bringing music to villages and small towns in an area where major orchestras cannot be accommodated.

In their concert last week, the final event in the 20th season of the Chipping Campden Music Society, they displayed their catholic repertoire from the Renaissance to the present day, and if most of the works were of minor proportions, there was already in an opening Turtini symphony the awareness of crisp yet fluent, well-rehearsed playing.

A Hindemithian Divergence by Harald Genzmer (b. 1909), an idiomatic reading of an Intermezzo by Bruckner, Mozart's Divertimento (K136) given with lively accompanying figures, and the premiere of Arthur Butterworth's *The Fox* were the most satisfying pieces.

Lying outside the Cotswolds, but with a view of Brecon and the Breconway hills, is Worcester College for the Blind, a residential grammar school for some 80 boys with little or no sight.

At their first public concert in a Worcester church nine solo performers, a choir (with judicious adult strengthening) and recorder and brass ensembles offered pieces from Back to Stravinsky via Mozart, Grieg and Faure.

Even after the special Braille notation is mastered, everything must be committed to memory, as it is impossible to use fingers for reading and playing simultaneously. Confidence and panache have been cultivated: the rare skills in technique. Particularly memorable were the crystalline tone of Neil Lawrence's trumpet, the unsurpassing virtuosity of Edmund Whitehouse, the musicianly control of the brass ensemble. James McCulloch in two movements of Mozart's third horn concerto and David Liddle (already booked for recitals in Germany and Scotland) playing Mulet's *Carillon* Solo.

Barry Sill

arts

I SEE, I PAINT
I SEE, I PAINTChildren's Art
COMPETITION

A new National Gallery painting competition for children is being sponsored by Dulux Paints. The competition is called 'I see, I paint' and the theme is FOOD, inspired by the new National Gallery Restaurant.

For further information and entry forms contact The Education Department, The National Gallery, Trafalgar Square, London WC2N 5DN, Tel: 01-839 3321, Ext: 290 or 295.

The National Gallery
Dulux

Anthony Masters interviews Peter Gill about his new 'Don Juan'

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Biology in context

Anthony Harris

Lifestyles. By Owen Bishop
Macmillan Education. £2.45.
0 333 23413 8

Life: Form and Function. By C.V. Brewer
and C.D. Burrow. Second edition
Macmillan Education. £2.95.
0 333 27131 9

Modern Biology. By R. Soper and S.
Tyrell Smith. Education. £2.95.
0 333 26304 9

Evolutionary Biology. By D.J. Futuyma.
Shawyer Associates. £10.50.
0 87893 199 6

Biology is fast coming of age as one of the foundation sciences for wider subjects such as sociology, and as crucial introduction to the place our species has in the biosphere. Elementary texts leading the student to GCE level should reflect these wider issues. These three books from Macmillan manage to pack a great deal of information for their cost, but all reveal a fundamental lack of development of principle.

Lifestyles purports to link combined science courses and CSE or GCE biology. Astonishingly, the first chapter deals with Viking probing the surface of Mars. We have to reach chapter 4 before simple life is considered, and then the theme of life-style is dropped again. This is a confusing text, with illustrations not up to the standard expected. Teachers might find a copy stimulating for their own reading, because of the curious organisation of the book, but I wouldn't wish neophytes to be initiated with it.

Life: Form and Function attempts to cover, with suggestions for laboratory work included, the subject matter of the GCE biology syllabus of most boards. It

is excellent value in its coverage and factual content, but again does not live up to its title. It is a pity too that some sloppy art work (p.113 a confusing table) too often creates a barrier between reader and subject.

Modern Biology, for first examinations, is a no-nonsense, value-for-money, reasonably well-produced book which honestly addresses principle, and usually succeeds in exemplifying it. For example, the treatment of surface area to volume problems in living systems is done well. For GCE classes, a sound text, with useful field and laboratory suggestions support it, along with examination question specimens; but there is nothing new here in treatment or presentation. The way is indeed difficult between a dated approach, and one which captures the energy of a living science.

Evolutionary Biology is a well-produced text showing how population statistics and taxonomy continue to affect the economy of species. The author does not shrink from attempting to identify the impact of these sometimes controversial notions upon our own species (see chapter 19, "Social Issues in Human Evolution"), yet, there is a weakness in this text, since an over-commitment to purely statistical reasoning leaves the reader wondering if this subject is really as nebulous as it appears. It is not, of course, as an inclusion of a chapter on defects in gene sequences, at the molecular level, would reveal.

So many of our diseases, for example sickle cell anaemia, have their genesis in DNA nucleotide sequencing. This text, however, might find its place in the library of a large school with many pupils studying A level biology, botany, zoology and human biology, as a supportive text. But another text is needed to present the molecular theories too.

Spreading the Good News

David Self on Bible stories

Illustrated Children's Bible. By Geoffrey Marshall-Taylor.
Octopus £5.95. 7064 0861 6.

Living Stories from the Bible. By Meryl and Malcolm Doney.
Hutchinson £2.95 each.

The Ancient Jews. By Linda Matcham.
Canongate Publishing £3.95. 903937 94 8.

Bible Stories. By Diana Bentley.
Hart-Davis Educational 50p each.
Bible Albums.
Hodder and Stoughton £1.30 each.

Do you remember when it would have seemed sacrilegious for the Bible to be found in anything but black (unless it was a "wedding Bible"), and when "Children's Bible" meant the Authorized Version with the addition of a few anemic watercolours, two maps of the Holy Land and a plan of Herod's temple?

Praise the Lord those days are gone and it is now fashionable to make the Bible both attractive and accessible. Following a fashion does not always result in an acceptable product but this latest batch of Bibles for young readers are mostly better than average and some are actually inspiring.

First, from Octopus, and perhaps designed for the gift trade but worthy of a place in every junior school classroom, is the *Illustrated Children's Bible*. This is a retelling of the important Old and New Testament stories, together with a selection of non-narrative scripture skilfully woven into the story framework. The language is simple but dignified and the full-colour artwork is equally attractive. For once there is a determined effort to portray his-

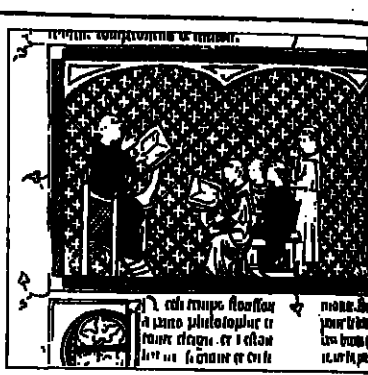
torical settings accurately and the reader quickly senses that the various artists have been briefed properly. The New Testament illustrations are particularly happy, eschewing both romanticism and self-indulgence. Unlike some other recent retellings, there is no attempt to demythologize the story of the creation and the nature miracles, so it will appeal to fundamentalists as much as to those who appreciate its modern presentation.

On offer, as they say, at some outlets at £3.95, it is very good value, especially when set alongside the *Living Stories from the Bible*. These two titles (the first of which promises to be a developing series) are not particularly cheap at £2.95 for less than 50 pages each, the text is more demanding than that in the Octopus Bible, and the illustrations are somewhat clichéd. However, there are some very helpful maps and panels containing simple commentary points. More explanation of the Old Testament is available in *The Ancient Jews*, a children's information book that covers in a clear and concise manner such topics as food, housing, clothes, weapons and education. It is the sort of simple reference book that can be so useful in clearing up misunderstandings about other cultures, and will prove its worth in many an Old Testament project.

Very simple in design but highly effective are Diana Bentley's *Bible Stories*. Each 16-page booklet takes one story, and retells it clearly and directly in a style that will present few problems for young juniors. The print is large and attractive and the colour illustrations, though unpretentious, are bold and informative. Provided the series develops, it will prove a most useful classroom resource.

I am less happy with the latest five titles in the *Bible Album* series. This European

import has the look of a bold project but has suffered from compromise, almost as if someone had the idea of retelling the Bible in the style of Asterix and then his nerve. They are large-format, 48-page comic books, each one covering a section of the Acts in colour cartoon strips. What is pleasing is that a publisher has had the imagination to move away from the better-known areas of the Bible and to tackle one book in some detail, incorporating short excerpts from the Epistles in passing. The language is sufficiently difficult to make them more suitable for lower secondary rather than top junior classes and the older age group may find the drawing unsophisticated, though they are still very much hotter than anemic watercolours.



The Church as educator. The Story of Christianity, by Tim Dowley (Lon £3.95) is a copiously illustrated account of the movements and personalities in the development of Christianity. Intended for the younger reader, it has double page spreads on a variety of topics, from the birth of Christ and Paul's journeys to the present day.

In the 1950's a trip to a museum or gallery was not a treat. It was part of one's education, and children whispered their way around the collections, never touching the exhibits, or ever stopping to sketch them. Only the dinosaurs stay in my memory, enlivened by my father's vivid commentary reinforcing the BBC Schools programme *How Things Began*. Pictures had to be sorted into "isms"—another ineradicable memory.



At the Natural History Museum

How different this last half term at the Museum of London to have to battle through hordes of enthusiastic children, in ones and twos, alone or with parents, or in larger organised parties, all vying for space round the exhibits to complete work and quiz sheets. One girl said, "First I came with the school, and now I've come again with my friend". Geoffrey Toms, the Museum's Education Officer, says they are overwhelmed with bookings for school parties.

Work sheets designed by the education staff are used as an aid to learning. Suitable for 9-14 year olds they function at two levels, drawing and writing, and are suitable for a wide ability range. The quiz sheets available to all visitors cost 8p each and are well thought out and attractive. They include tasks such as spotting a "missing link", or a more difficult "hide-me" puzzle. For school parties, bookings have to be made at least three months in advance.

The Natural History Museum is very popular too. It has about three million visitors a year, and the facilities are exceptionally well organised. Booking forms for educational visits can be obtained from the Visitor Resources Centre, from which parents can also seek advice and obtain activity sheets. On Saturday afternoons and during the ILEA half term there is a Children's Centre, and during the holidays there is a Family Centre for parents and children.

Popular with visitors

For schools, there are a range of structured activity sheets at many levels, from six years to sixth form study, from those incorporating sophisticated concepts of human evolution to delightful, but cluttered, dot-to-dot, number, and colour-in pictures. Some of these are available for the general public and they cost around 5p. Bookings must be made some weeks before the intended visit. A teacher's handbook and sample work sheets are available, and schools can request a guided tour.

The Science Museum will send you a Visit Planning Pack containing a comprehensive plan of the museum, an index of galleries and facilities, a list of the Information Sheets for teachers, and general advice. There are lectures for 9-11 year olds up to sixth form level, and as they are popular, advance booking is necessary. Children's films are shown in the holidays.

A folder on the "History of Medicine" accompanies the recently opened Wellcome Collection and there are also three-fold Activity Sheets. There are ten titles, five at each of two ability levels: "Find Out About..." for older pupils, and "Looking At..." for younger children. Beautifully produced in blue or brown they include reproduced photographs, paintings and line drawings, and they relate scientific advance to social history in a thoughtful, if formal, manner. In contrast, some of the Quiz Guides available from the shop for the general public young visitor are disappointing. There are facilities for handicapped visitors.

There are no organised guided tours at the Geological Museum. On Tuesdays at 3.15 pm film programmes of interest to school parties are shown, and there are monthly lectures suitable for senior classes in secondary schools. There is a demonstration room with drawing facilities,

Days of art and quiz sheets

Claire Hardisty looks at how London's museums and galleries cater for visiting children, whether in school groups or with their families.

microscopes etc. available. Workshops for fossil collectors are held once a month: details from the museum. Printed Museum "Search" leaflets are available, on reptiles, the earth, deserts and coal, at 3p, each, to schools and the general public.

The Victoria and Albert Museum provides talks for any age group, and there are occasional holiday activities. Last Christmas there was a quiz sheet competition entitled "Twelfth Night", followed by a musical entertainment.

Perhaps at this point the great work sheet debate should be referred to. Peter Dornier ("Worksheets in August" TES 8.8.80) wrote of the possibility of "holiday activity phobias" who exchange school work sheets for holiday worksheets. One curator I spoke to called developments in work sheets "the supermarket approach" and many people in museum education services denigrate the "I-spy" approach, and believe that work sheets are restrictive. Equally, others believe them to be an essential element in structuring learning.

John Reeve at the British Museum thinks that the best way to use a visit is for research arising out of the child's own school work. For many children, a trail, quiz or work sheet helps to focus attention on what is important, particularly in the larger museums. Unplanned rushing about and untrained looking can be tiring and unrewarding, and can lead to the "see who can press the most buttons" game.

The British Museum offers teachers' packs and illustrated notes for teachers to help prepare for a visit. These contain maps, excellent drawings, reference material and reading lists. There is an Olympic Games Exhibition pack already available, and a pack on Greek mythology in preparation. In the holidays the Museum provides Trails for 8-12 year olds. At Easter, the subject of the trail will be Egyptian Animals. Facilities for the disabled are available on request.

Evocative village and palace

What a pity that the Museum of Mankind which attracts so many children, should apparently make so little concession to them. Many of the exhibits in the *Assorted Kingdom of Gold* hall are far too high for children to see, and the language of the labels is clearly meant for adults. The evocative Assate village and palace, brilliantly lit, foliaged, and hot, has no model of children or their artefacts, and when I visited it was full of young visitors. Concise worksheets are available for three of the exhibitions. Some middle school boys "doing Aborigines" qualified their response to the sheets: "Well... it's interesting... once you can get down to it". Special film shows and introductory talks can be booked by writing to the Education Service. There is a schools room for eating packed lunches.

The last holiday activity at the National Portrait Gallery attracted three hundred children during forty-eight hours. For schools, there are sheets of Notes and Questions for use in conjunction with a guided tour relating to historical periods. The focus of some work I saw on the Tudors was on the way in which painting techniques can convey historical ideas.

The Gallery offers enterprising Practical Art sessions: pastels, collage, printing, mask-making and drawing for 8-13 year olds, while for 11-16 year olds, techniques of face making using drawing, painting and sculpture are offered. Some younger children, initially overwhelmed by the size and number of the pictures, were skilfully persuaded to create their own portraits and were soon looking at faces, comparing their own with those of Stuart dignitaries. They took back to school with them a frieze of self-portraits crayoned onto white cloth. Booking is essential, and there are facilities for the disabled.

At the National Gallery, quiz sheets are available in the holidays are offered to schools three weeks before the end of term. Informal lectures for the age range seven to 18 years are available. There are a level of studies, such as Renaissance or Dutch Seventeenth Century paintings. While at primary level the talks are project based on topics such as water, sky or trees. At this and at the secondary level, teachers can request a subject. Anthea Peppin, the Schools Officer, quoted a teacher whose

class of fifteen year olds condemned all painting as looking like brown gravy. Ms Peppin responded with a talk entitled "Brown Gravy Paintings".

For children on a day trip to London she organises an introduction to the gallery of a study of six famous paintings. Work sheets are available at junior and senior level, and they include some that require no reading and others for physically and mentally handicapped children. In the holidays, there are quiz sheets and painting competitions, designed to encourage looking.

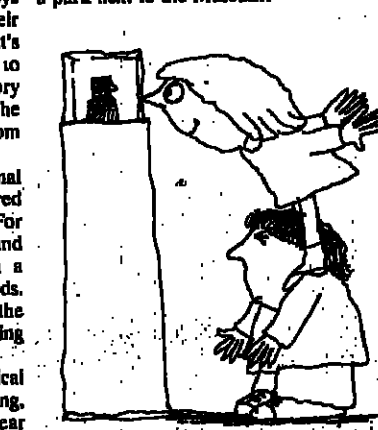
Holidays and Saturdays

Holiday and Saturday activities are considered to be closely linked with those of schools. I particularly liked the Thursday afternoon pre-school activity class. It was carefully structured, with a story, a walk round the Museum to find things in the story, and finally painting or playing. In an activity room there is an old dolls' house to play with, a wooden horse to ride on, a weaving loom and art materials. There are holiday activities, puppet shows, talks, fashion shows and craft sessions.

While some schools bring their own work sheets, the feeling is that the collection is compact enough for the emphasis to be on looking. There are information sheets on dolls, Victorian shopping, silhouettes and childhood, and suggestions on how groups can best use the Museum. Book lists on toys and history are available, and a list of children's stories which feature examples of the toys. There is a park next door for picnics, and toilet facilities for the disabled.

The Horniman Museum in Forest Hill offers informal talks with slides, films and demonstration material. There is an information pack for teachers, a list of work topics, and suggestions for making work sheets. Information sheets for children are available for some topics. The staff emphasise that the ethnic nature of the exhibits, which include puppets, masks, carvings and musical instruments, lend themselves well to multi-racial teaching.

Visits from partially-sighted and blind, and partially-hearing and deaf groups are encouraged, but the visits should be planned with the Museum. There is a Children's Club every Saturday and in the holidays for 8-18 year olds concentrating on creative work, and a Saturday Special Interest Centre to develop skills using the Museum and library. School visits should be booked. There is a sandwich room, and a park next to the Museum.



Lofty exhibits at the Museum of Mankind.

The Peasemore Edwards Museum, Stratford, E.15, provides talks illustrated with slides and objects from the reserve collection. The emphasis is on local and natural history, archaeology and geology. Talks can be arranged with teachers to suit a wide variety of ages and abilities. Staff will also visit schools to give talks, and there is a loan collection, although priority is given to Newham schools. A teacher is available for teachers. In the holidays there are competition quiz sheets, club activities and two-day projects for children aged nine and over.

Many of the outer London Borough Museums offer an excellent service to schools. Some are small, but still well worth a visit. The Elizabethan Handing Lodge in Epping Forest will open for schools by appointment. A short guided tour is offered, but teachers should make

their own work sheets. The Museum can involve a wide age range from infants to secondary school children.

At Bexley the Local Studies Service offers guided tours around a part of Elizabethan, post-Jacobean house containing exhibits of local industrial, domestic and natural history. There are information sheets.

At the Bromley Museum in Orpington local children can be given an introductory tour of their library and Museum, and can handle Stone Age material.

Some holiday projects take place at the Ranger's House, Blackheath. These have involved quiz sheets and practical work. Visits can be made to Kenwood House, Hampstead. Enquiries about both houses should be made to Miss G. Adams (ILEA) 01-582 9027. Introductory talks can be arranged by request.

At the Canning Museum in Southwark, there are three free work sheets as a guide to help teachers to make their own, and a small collection which can be handled.



Practical Art at the National Portrait Gallery.

A small number of top juniors can see Broomfield House with its Victorian nursery. Contact Mr. Pam, of the London Borough of Haringey on 01-866 6555.

There is an entrance charge of 25p for children under 15, and 50p for students, at the Dickens Museum. An information sheet, sample work sheets and a dossier of advice are available in advance to visitors, who should be well prepared.

The Borough of Greenwich's Plumstead Museum offers quizzes, brass rubbing, sketching, talks, slides and a loan collection for schools.

Gunnery Park Museum lends unbreakable artefacts to schools. Tours, talks, handling items and free work sheets are available in this museum which contains toys, costumes, a penny-farthing, and phonographs. There are also holiday quizzes. Bruce Castle, Haringey, has a teaching and activity rooms, a growing collection of work sheets, and holds sessions to introduce children to the Museum service. Programmes are developed in response to teachers' requirements and have included patterns in maths and "How We Used to Live" schemes.

Museums and galleries constitute invaluable resource material, but good preparation is essential. Fewer museum education departments report classes being dumped in the museums on Friday afternoon and told to get on with it on their own, although it still happens.

The Tate Gallery takes a large number of school parties. They provide work sheets which are designed to "lead your eyes into the pictures", as well as sheets relating to sculptures and prints. Booking at least three weeks in advance is necessary, six weeks ahead for talks. Talks, slides, work sheets and questionnaires are available for all age ranges. There is no room where school parties can eat a packed lunch. In the holidays there are competitions, spot-the-detail games and book reviews. Bookings for visits should be made at least a term in advance.

The Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood, a department of the Victoria and Albert Museum, is a community museum with a strong focus on childhood. The collection of toys, dolls, dolls houses, clothes and puppets is well spread and lively, the exhibits being low enough for almost all children to see without being lifted. Last week a Youth Opportunities Training Programme lecture emphasised what the participants could do for themselves using the exhibits for inspiration, as a hobby, and later with their own children.

resources



The National Maritime Museum welcomes schools.

comes school and group visits. There are practical work projects for juniors including ship model making, drawing and painting. There are work sheets available. For local children there is a Half Deck Club on alternate Saturdays, for juniors and seniors.

Wing Commander Wood offers a whole day outing to the RAF Museum at Hendon, starting with a talk with slides and continuing with trails or a museum guide covering topics such as the Battle of Britain, Bomber Command and Pioneers of Flight. After lunch, there are film shows from 1.30-3.45 pm. At the moment questionnaires are available to parties only.

History of the Army

The National Army Museum offers topics relating to the history of the army from 1485-1914, Indian and Colonial to 1914, and the history of small arms to 1978. Talks, slides, archive film, facilities of archive material, and a handling collection of costume and small arms are available. Ideas sheets and reading lists are available, and for three weeks in the summer holidays there is a project incorporating films, talks, model making and quizzes. Access for the disabled to the lecture theatre and most exhibits.

There is a very pleasant library lecture room at the Imperial War Museum. When I was there, a class of teenage boys were watching German film and, guided by a lecturer, were discovering propaganda techniques. There is also a 200-seat film theatre and ten tiny lists of educational film shows for different age groups are available. Six sided work sheets on "The First World War" and "The Second World War", both at two ability levels, are issued to schools, and there is also a holiday activity work sheet on "War 1775-1980". Photocopies of documents on Nazi Germany, Home Front 1939-45, and Trench Warfare, postcards and letters can be ordered from the Museum at 14p a sheet, so that teachers can make their own project folders. Booking is required for school parties. There are no indoor facilities for eating packed lunches.

At the Geoffrey Museum the attention of a group of juniors was held for an hour as the Museum teacher related what they knew to what they could see in the Tudor room. The children held artefacts, smelt tallow candles and pomanders, and absorbed new information about the period. Two children were selected for dressing up. Their jeans and jerseys were covered by black lights, petticoats and a bolster farthingale, which provoked giggles. They put on padded trunk-hose with velvet jacket, and velvet double skirt with pointed boned bodice. As bleached linen ruffs and Tudor cap and Anne Boleyn bonnet were added, their grave faces assumed an elongated, Elizabethan air, momentarily silencing the class before a riot of photographs broke the spell. The lesson finished with a sketch of the couple.

Both text and illustration in the work sheets are of good quality and there is a crossword, puzzle, scoring puzzles, and some unusual worksheets designed to extend observation into evocations of life in the past. During the holidays there are projects based on music, writing, plays and puppets. Special project days can be booked by schools, and can include use of art rooms. Bookings for visits should be made at least a term in advance.

The Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood, a department of the Victoria and Albert Museum, is a community museum with a strong focus on childhood. The collection of toys, dolls, dolls houses, clothes and puppets is well spread and lively, the exhibits being low enough for almost all children to see without being lifted. Last week a Youth Opportunities Training Programme lecture emphasised what the participants could do for themselves using the exhibits for inspiration, as a hobby, and later with their own children.

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In their elements

Jessica Saraga

Twentieth Century People. Amy Johnson.
Queen of the Air. By Gordon Sutt. 334p.
250p. 0. Winstan Churchill Never Surrendered.
By William Vivian Butler. 0 340 24860 2.

Hodder and Stoughton. Both £4.95.

Winston Churchill and Amy Johnson are unlikely pair, though a series with as wide a scope as *Twentieth Century People* can obviously accommodate them both. If there is anything more in common than simply finding fame through achievement, perhaps it was an unusual belief in their own abilities, coupled with the consuming drive which can build up against daunting setbacks, and although Amy's adventures were natural where Winston's were human, still her battle to keep her fragile craft airborne, intact and on course, was symbolic of what Churchill tried to do 10 years after with the war effort. This way the stories are presented in these two short children's biographies, where the emphasis is on personal triumph. Although after-

wards both protagonists sailed into slack water, reaching martial or political odours, the achievement, it is suggested, remains.

The style is in each case simple, clear and dramatic, but unfortunately, quite unrefined. Hero and heroine here have a date with destiny, and always know best how to meet it. This is particularly noticeable in the book on Churchill, whom, it must be admitted, there is much to be critical about. Someone so outspoken during such a lasting pre-eminence must not get it. It is sometimes disconcertingly wrong, but although his political advice is quoted, he comes out every time as the man with right on his side. The philosophy of writing about the brave and the great for seven, eight and nine year olds is sound enough; this model-seeking age-group is hungry for heroes. But to present such a black and white view of people and events is surely counterproductive. If the text books do not address and evaluate critically, it seems little to hope to encourage independent judgements among their readers.

Solutions to equations

Numerical Methods. By R.R. Broughton and A.R.D. Ramsay.
Bell and Hyman, £2.50.

Intended for a level students and undergraduates taking mathematics courses, this book is largely concerned with setting up and solving equations. Much of it will be in any good modern A level mathematics text, but here is a clear, if short explanation of curve sketching, polynomial approximations, difference operators, Simpson's Rule, step-by-step solution of differential equations, solution of sets of linear equations by projective denotation, etc. It is well printed, but a bit brief for anyone who is not already competent in A level mathematics.

Alan Tammadge

extra WORDS FOR MUSIC

Recently published material for 11-14 years olds, compiled by Paul Farmer

While music may not always be the most popular of compulsory subjects in the first three years of the comprehensive school, recently it has provided textbook writers and educational publishers with plenty to do. The main reason for this seems to have been the subject's reluctance to get in line with modern educational thought, certainly in terms of becoming "comprehensive", an attitude which seems to have been reflected in outdated textbooks and teaching methods which have only recently begun to change.

Although the "creativity" movement was well under way before this textbook revolution began, the attention it received from music teachers possibly detracted from the need to supply good published material for the broad-based work of the classroom. Those who claimed that "appreciation" lessons were old hat simply underestimated the constraints of music teachers working with full classes, who, rightly or wrongly, had at least occasionally to teach their classes conventionally. Consequently, teachers have had to wait until comparatively recently for these real needs to be met in attractive and modern textbooks.

Roy Bennett's series of music appreciation books, *Enjoying Music* (Longman, £1.35 each), is a good example. The first was published in 1977, and sales were so high that not only has the third book recently been published, but three accompanying *Enjoying Music* Workbooks will be

out later this year.

The format of *Enjoying Music*, book 3, like that of its predecessors, is the presentation of 23 varied pieces of music on paper, to be used by the teacher and pupil in conjunction with recordings of the music. Each piece and its composer are described, with suitable illustrations, followed by "points to listen for", with the main themes listed and printed. For example, in *Rhapsody in Blue* there is the "spine-tingling" clarinet opening leading into Tune A, after which a bass clarinet "bubbles away" between phrases with Tune C, and so on.

Although this comparatively simple treatment of pieces of music may sound rather dry, it is the additional combination of the particular chosen pieces and the publishers' format that makes them attractive. The pieces themselves vary from such chestnuts as *The Sorcerer's Apprentice* to *West Side Story*, complete with film stills, while the *avant-garde* is well represented in Stockhausen's *Kontakte* and a Cage sonata.

The emergence of the *Enjoying Music* workbooks later this year is not just the publishers' attempt at keeping a market which they have obviously found lucrative, but also represents the major criticism that the original books did not contain sufficient accompanying activities themselves. Book 3 only contains three "quizzes", with cross-words and rearrange-the-letters-to-find-a-composer type questions. The new work-

books contain sections which correspond to each section of the original books, and which comprise several different groups of questions, including ones to be answered while or after listening to the pieces, as well as comprehension-type questions and "Things to Do". Anyone who already has a set of the original books will certainly find these additional ones very useful indeed, providing the temptation to let the workbooks take over from teaching can be resisted!

The *Oxford Topics in Music* series (OUP, £1.50 each) began last year with Michael Bennett's *Pop Music*, reviewed in the last Music Extra. This was recently followed by *Indian Music*, by Leela Floyd, and *The Steel Band*, by John Bartholomew. The series is designed for 11 to 14-year-olds and is topic based, with each 48-page book covering a particular aspect of music.

Both the recent titles are aimed at ethnic minority groups which have previously had little textbook coverage, though clearly the publishers hope to also interest a wider range of teachers and pupils with these titles. Inevitably the books contain a good deal of information about the countries concerned, and some teachers may therefore feel that they extend too far outside their own field, making the musical content somewhat limited. For example, the first ten pages of *The Steel Band* are taken up with information about life in Trinidad, and

although there are some useful arrangements of tunes at the end of this book, the scope for pupils' involvement is limited. Indian Music, on the other hand, goes into some detail about the nature of the music itself, and could provide the basis for some useful work with older pupils. Future titles include *The Piano*, *Medieval Music* and *Jamaican Music*.

The *Sounds and Music* series, by Geoffrey Winters (Longman, £1.95 each) recently acquired a third book, which contains over twenty songs or other musical activities, each linked to a particular theme (eg Jazz, War Music, etc). As well as being an attractively produced book, it strikes a good balance between musical and factual content, so that while there is plenty of actual musical material of varied difficulty, style and combination, there is also related text and suggestions for other non-musical activities. The book could therefore be very useful in mixed ability classes, where the teacher has a sufficiently flexible classroom approach. Useful optional extras are a teachers' book, which goes into some detail as to how the best use can be made of the material in the pupils' book, and a set of classroom arrangements and piano accompaniments for the songs.

Paul Farmer is the author of several music textbooks, including the "Longman Music Topics" series.

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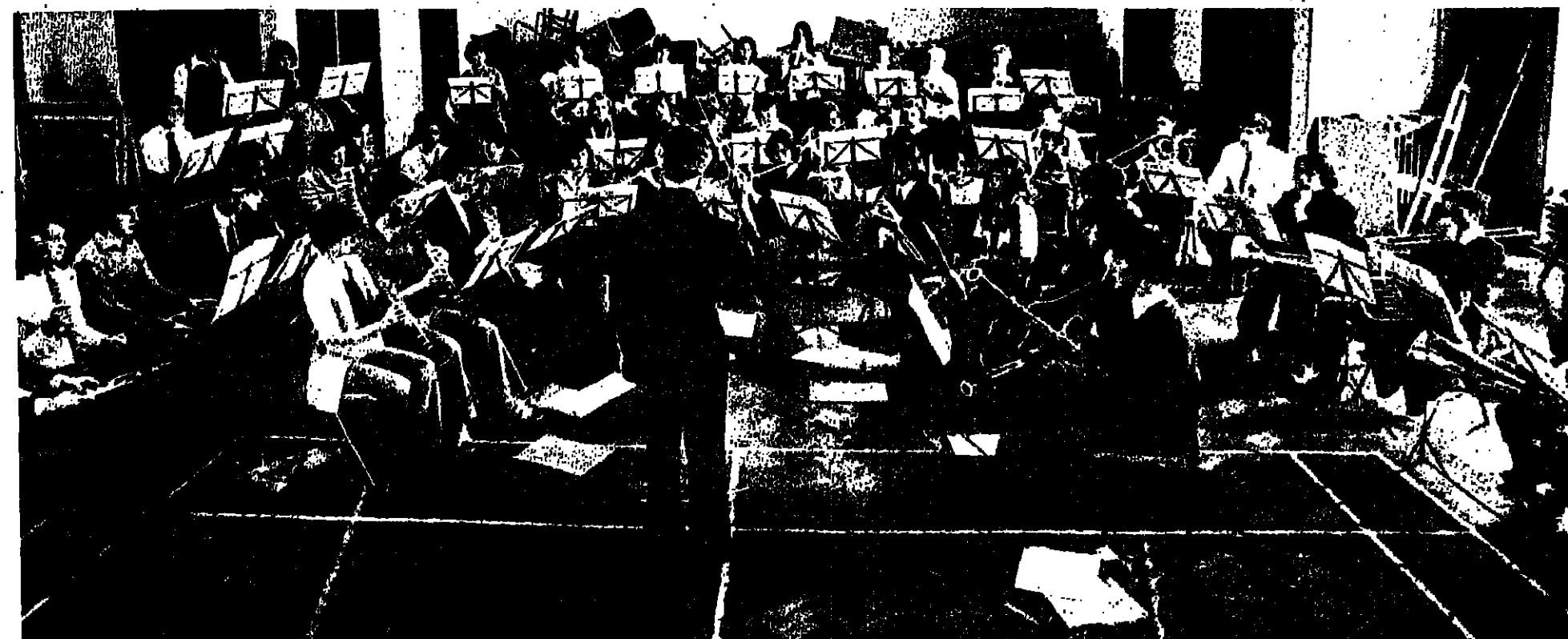
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The cost of sheet music is very high for many schools with ensembles and orchestras. But not all music is subject to the Copyright Act. While the law takes its slow course what may be copied must be investigated very carefully.

THE COPYRIGHT AFFAIR

A report by Sandra Hempel

Last year the Music Publishers' Association sued Wolverhampton local authority for infringing its members' copyright in the authority's schools. Wolverhampton paid £1,300 damages.

This year the association went to court over a case where teachers had copied music. This time the target was an independent school, Oakham, in Leicestershire. The association claimed that Oakham, which has three orchestras, a concert band, a choir and several ensembles, had illegally copied music over a period of years.

Oakham's damages were £4,250 and the association has set up a fighting fund with which to handle future cases. It is determined to go to court whenever it believes its members' rights are infringed and says that illegal copying in schools is costing its members millions.

Publishers, authors and users agree that the present copyright law is vague and unsatisfactory. It was not framed to cope with modern methods of copying. The situation has been getting steadily worse over the last 10 years with the development of comparatively cheap plain paper copiers and the more recent cut-backs in education spending might also tempt some teachers to copy rather than buy.

Schools, according to the copyright holders, are the worst offenders and the holders are convinced that the law is regularly broken by teachers, albeit often unwittingly. The problem includes copying from books and periodicals as well as sheet music but the association claims that printed music accounts for up to 60 per cent of all copying in schools, colleges and universities.

Copyright is protected by the Copyright Act 1911. If any copyright exists on a piece of work then permission to copy must be obtained from the holder. This permission normally involves some payment. The problem is in finding out whether copyright exists and, if so, who owns it.

It is well-known that copyright on a piece of music, for example, exists during the composer's lifetime and for 50 years after his death. It is less known that there can be several copyrights involved in one piece of printed music, all expiring at different times.

The vocal score of an opera, for example, will involve the copyright of the composer for the music, the copyright of the librettist for the words, the copyright of the editor who has made the vocal score, reduction from the composer's full score, and the copyright of the publisher in the image of the printed score. These copyrights do not necessarily run for the same length of time.

"Only if it is absolutely clear that there is no element of copyright whatever in a piece of music or publication is one safely entitled to make one's own copies of it," the association tells users.

The Copyright Act gives some exemptions, one of which is for educational purposes, but this clause offers only limited help and is mainly concerned with the

setting of exam questions. Another exemption covers "fair dealing" but this is almost impossible to define.

When the Whitford Committee reported on copyright and design law in 1977, it said that photocopying was one of the most difficult issues it had to face. Whitford recommended dealing with photocopying by a system of blanket licensing where, for a single annual fee, the user would get permission to use any or all of the works in a licensor's repertoire.

Since then the government has been promising a Green Paper on the subject and one is due any time, according to the Department of Trade, although no definite date has yet been given. When it does appear it will still be only the first tentative step on a possible road to a new law.

Meanwhile, the copyright holders are becoming increasingly impatient. Through the Wolfenden Committee, which represents them, they recently approached local authorities to try to thrash out an agreement. Wolfenden is pushing for immediate implementation of the Whitford report. So far, however, little progress has been made and neither side is optimistic. The local authorities do not want to commit themselves to any firm course of action that might jeopardize their case in any future legislation. They are hoping that any new law will include what is from their point of view a more satisfactory exemption for education.

The Council of Local Education Authorities has a firm mandate from its members to try to negotiate a code of conduct with the copyright holders. This they see as a middle course between a licensing system, which some fear will be very bureaucratic, wasting teachers' time and resources or doing nothing at all. The latter course would undoubtedly result in more test cases through the courts. So far no case on test books has been brought against a school but the Educational Publishers' Council has made a few threatening noises recently. The holders can, of course, introduce their own licensing system without waiting for legislation or agreement with the users. They prefer at the moment to wait for the Green Paper.

While bodies like the Society of Authors and the Publishers' Association are still arguing it out through the Wolfenden Committee, however, the music publishers have gone it alone. They have come out against a licensing system, withdrawn from the Wolfenden negotiations and issued their own code of conduct, "Fair copying rules, OK". The code gives permission to photocopy copyright music in certain circumstances. These include emergencies, such as when music is lost or damaged at the last moment before a concert or study and research where only a short excerpt is involved or if any work is out of print and not been supplied as requested by the publisher.

"We think we have found a satisfactory

syllabus and it is impossible to buy it". Although the association code does go some way to help, Mr Page says, teachers do not always have the time to write back and forth when orders are not supplied. "It would be so much simpler if people just received the goods they ordered".

Mr David Turnbull, President-elect of the MPA, who is also director of music at Solihull School, is currently working on guidelines to tell members what they can and cannot do. The Association is taking legal advice over the guidelines and also plans to bring up the question of poor service from some publishers at its next conference.

In the meantime Mr Turnbull is anxious to make sure that teachers do not get the impression from all the recent publicity that it is always illegal to copy music. He says that the exam syllabus of the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music says, wrongly, that it is against the law to copy any music and he also claims that the MPA does not go out of its way to dispel this view.

Meanwhile, however, the discussions go on and teachers are left in what government, publishers, authors and local authorities all admit is a very confused situation. With the exception of the music publishers, most sides seem to favour a new law but this is still in the distance. If the Government's time-scale in bringing out the Green Paper is anything to go by, the confusion is likely to go on for a long time to come and in the interim the MPA is pledged to deal with erring less schools and teachers through the courts.

INTENSIVE EXPERIENCE

Dudley Wilson visits the Royal Northern College of Music

Closure of The Academy of the BBC in 1977 left a vacuum. This orchestra, providing "intensive orchestral experience immediately following an instrumentalist's course", was in effect the nation's training orchestra, BBC funded and administered.

The 1978 Gulbenkian Report "Training Musicians" noted concern felt by the Association of British Orchestras at the shortage of high-quality players, especially strings, applying for orchestral vacancies. The gap between standards achieved on three-year courses and those demanded by professional orchestras could be narrowed, the report suggested, by adding a year and by introducing postgraduate studies, to make five in all. Both recommendations have been implemented.

Gulbenkian supported the idea of a 68-piece training orchestra at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester. Things have not turned out quite as envisaged but two years ago Goldsmiths started its symphony orchestra course. Last September the RNCM formed its orchestra with a strength of 30, significantly seven strings short of expectations.

Principal John Manduell's vision and effort in setting up this Sinfonia deserve applause for it cannot have been easy. Last year was disturbing for the music profession with even the Promenade concerts threatened by industrial action fighting closure of several orchestras. Cops and technicians brought back that it is a receding tide that leaves some distinctly muddy pools. It is fitting that

the RNCM, "perhaps the most important single development since 1967" (Gulbenkian), should run a training chamber orchestra for this striking, purpose-built college has long emphasized performance to the highest standards. Its teaching and products are, undoubtedly, of excellent quality. With its splendid concert hall and opera theatre the RNCM not only offers students an environment of musical activity unequalled by most colleges but its contribution to the musical life of Manchester is outstanding. It is right that postgraduate attention should turn to creating top-flight orchestral players in their own right and not dissatisfied solo performers.

Christopher Yates, also new to Manchester in September, is Dean of Postgraduate Studies. His experience admirably suits him to control the Sinfonia, for he was six years general manager of the Northern Sinfonia. Michel Brandt is resident chief conductor and visiting conductors include Edward Downes, Diego Masson and Sir Charles Groves.

Soloists include Gyorgy Pauk, Anthony Pay, Maurice Bourgue and Christian Blackshaw. With opportunities too for Sinfonia members to step forward in concerto/concertante performances the college certainly honours its claim to provide challenging orchestral conditions. I find the repertoire impressive too in spite of some limitations which small string numbers must impose.

Sinfonia students are inducted on a one-year course, leading to the RNCM's Post-

graduate Diploma in Advanced Studies in Performance, validated by Manchester University. The 36 week year is divided into two-week working periods. Each fortnight includes extensive rehearsals, time for personal practice and lesson, research time, final rehearsals and public concerts. Balancing these elements is a tricky administrative and personal matter.

Concerts, I was pleased to note, are also given in Liverpool, Cumbria and at Evian Festival. Such vital experience is also a useful contribution to regional music making. Together with say the Northern Sinfonia, Manchester Camerata and possibly college house orchestras the Sinfonia helps create an attractive subscription series in smaller towns. Sinfonia concerts are seen by the Musicians' Union and other chamber orchestras not so competition but more as pump priming. In any case it is impossible to contemplate training orchestral musicians without concerts before live audiences.

The Sinfonia is financially supported by the Arts Council, IBM (UK) and BBC whose Music Director in Manchester, David Ellis is a member of the Sinfonia Advisory Committee. The inaugural concert centred this BBC link with a specially commissioned work, *Celebration* by David Ellis. Postgraduate studies do not attract mandatory awards and in many cases the college supports students with grants but some eke out with freelancing and non-musical labour. Essential to the course is 30 hours of main study, tuition each

student receives. Additionally, leading instrumentalists work with students individually and in master classes. Such visitors have been Gervase de Peyer, Eli Goran, Stokka Milanova and the Vermeer Quartet.

Life at RNCM is hectic with innumerable opportunities to join orchestras, bands, chamber ensembles and recital groups. There is too the chance to attend almost daily concerts/residues given by renowned performers as part of the college's series of public events. The Sinfonia gained useful pit experience playing for the college production of *Cost of a Tune*. Should a planned postgraduate opera school ever materialize, there will be more such work. The RNCM provides a lively, exciting atmosphere in which to work. Diego Masson, remarking on this healthy musical activity, murmured to me, "nothing like it in France". During his Sinfonia fortnight he had clearly established *fiat rapport* with the players. I attended his final rehearsal and evening concert, culmination of two weeks' demanding work.

Criticism has been mixed by *The Daily Telegraph*, for example, considers Sinfonia concerts worthy of critical assessment, itself part of the concert-giving process. Standards do vary for the available policy employed is to pass around the roles of principals and leader. Students told me they definitely of the benefit they were deriving and the college, I have no doubt, is learning too. The back-ground of two Sinfonia members will illustrate how students reach such post-graduate levels. Victoria Walpole, oboe, completed a Manchester Music degree, teacher training and a year's teaching before deciding on orchestral playing as her career. Alan Withington, trumpet, completed a Band Musician's Diploma at Salford College of Technology and his BEd at Manchester College of HE. The Sinfonia course attracts students from throughout Britain and from abroad.

The concert, with a smallish audience, went well in a first-half programme, of Maxwell Davies and Mozart with Sinfonia horn Peter Amos giving a confident account of the Fourth Horn Concerto. In spite of taxing difficulties the Sinfonia distinguished itself in Schoenberg's First Chamber: Symphony which, naturally enough, absorbed most rehearsal time.

Sinfonia members are anxious about jobs but a heartening number have trials with orchestras and with three symphony orchestras locally the RNCM is well placed to help. Others have formed ensembles, produced sample tapes and are trying to break into concert society programmes. Some are considering jobs abroad. A realistic, far from cynical, spirit pervades the course. One orchestra member, at least, I have seen working successfully with the popular Elastic Band.

Vacuum and gap have been filled and the problems tackled. Impressively, The Sinfonia course does stretch students to professional standards. It is designed to succeed and to recruit fully but its members, and those for some years to come, must grit their teeth for the future facing orchestral players, though now stable, is not expanding, and to say

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EXCEPTIONAL TALENT

Simon Berry reports on onew opportunities for the musically gifted in Scotland

Within the last three years parents have seen two new units for the musically gifted opening up in Scottish schools. Before this it was a question of whether to enter the child for St Mary's cathedral school, a private school in Edinburgh, which widened its music curriculum in 1972, or to try for the larger specialist music schools south of the Border.

The new units at Broughton High School in Edinburgh and Douglas Academy, near Glasgow, are a direct result of the Cameron Report (1975) on Gifted Young Musicians and Dancers. The membership of the Committee took account of the particular interest in music education shown by the (then) Glasgow Education Authority, which contained within its boundaries both the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama (RSAMD) and the Scottish Ballet. There were also representatives from Edinburgh and the Scottish Education Dept (SED).

A Working Group proceeded on the following remit: 'To consider how children of exceptional talent in music or dance can be identified; what facilities are required for such children of secondary school age to enable them to develop their talents to the full; and to make recommendations for the education, both musical and general, of such children in association with an existing secondary school.' It was also agreed to consider any implications of these findings for children of primary school age.

The committee addressed itself to the problem of reconciling the conflicting demands on a child's time and attention from his normal educational requirements and those of his musical specialism. The idea of centralised special provision was favoured by the Cameron Report. In spite of reservations from some members about 'special treatment' and its impoverishing effect on the school from which gifted pupils would be removed.

The general recommendation was for some kind of specialist music unit taking pupils from all over Scotland.

The report went on to consider methods of auditioning for this specialist course, the way in which its requirements would need to integrate with the normal secondary curriculum, the problems of changing back to general education if the pupil decides against music as a career, and the question of providing hostel accommodation.

The closing recommendation of the report was that a specialist course should be instituted within a comprehensive school in either Glasgow or Edinburgh. For once education authorities could not be accused of dragging their feet; in fact, according to some commentators, the response by both Strathclyde and Lothian regions to set up such specialist units has been something of an overreaction. Perhaps in years to come, as the opportunities for such initiatives wither from economic blight, the education committees will be judged far-sighted.

Strathclyde's Douglas Academy was first in the field in 1979. A comprehensive with about one thousand pupils and a large music department, it was implanted with an initial intake of eleven specialist pupils. It is intended that there will be about six new pupils next academic year. The four full-time members of the school music staff teach the specialist pupils as well, and there is a Course Director.

The school day is divided so that about four and a half hours is devoted to curriculum subjects and one and a half hours to music and specialist tuition. In addition, there are solo or group practice sessions, often taking place in special hostel accommodation provided by a nearby college of education. The timetable problems had to be faced by John Halliday the headmaster: 'Cameron makes it quite clear that parents and children must realise there will be certain things they will have to forego. My job was to set up a balanced curriculum which in no way disadvantaged these children should they decide at a later date that they want to become dentists or engineers.'

Course Director, Walter Blair sees integration as a question of how well the school can accommodate the new course. He has built up a number of links through school clubs and orchestral performances, where the specialists are usually section leaders. 'The idea that motivation of pupils within the school music department has been improved, and in some pupils, even improved, has been given by visiting



players from one of the orchestras based in Glasgow. There are also regular visits from teachers at the RSAMD, who can be time-tabled to make weekly appearances at Douglas Academy.

There is also an emphasis on concert experience, building up a regular repertoire for at least one public concert per term by all the specialist pupils, and more frequent school recitals. The range of instruments taught encompasses the standard orchestral sections, plus facilities for a 12-year-old student to play the harpsichord.

Lothian Region are at present doing final auditions for an integrated primary and secondary course, based on Broughton High School and the nearby Flora Stevenson Primary School. From the beginning of the 1981-2 school session there will be places for up to 40 secondary and 25 primary pupils who have demonstrated the potential for exceptional achievement in music.

There are already close links between the two schools across the whole curriculum, and building is being completed on extensive practice and tuition rooms in the school grounds, including recording and playback facilities. The specialist music scheme is being co-ordinated by Neil Bell who, until he came to Edinburgh a year ago, was Principal of the South Nottinghamshire Music School which gave specialist extra-curricular teaching to gifted children.

There have been about 20 pupils submitted for the preliminary auditions. Assessing the shortlist, the panel will include the Region's music advisers and outside specialist teachers, and account will be taken of assessments from the pupil's present music teachers. As with Douglas Academy the specialists will have a specially designed timetable, approximately a quarter of the curriculum being allocated to music tuition, with a large section of musical activity taking place outside school hours.

It is anticipated that pupils will attend the scheme from all over the UK, and preparations are being made for parents of children already attending one of the schools to put up specialist pupils who come from outwith the Edinburgh area.

'Although founded in 1880 as the choir school of Edinburgh's Episcopal Cathedral, St Mary's Music School' has been taking pupils for instrumental tuition since 1972. At present there are 14 choristers and 25 instrumentalists, about half of whom are full-time, or weekly boarders in a nearby house. The academic classes are age-related, from seven to seventeen.

The curriculum is divided about equally between music and the rest of the curriculum; most pupils take up to 5.0 grades and two or three at grade 8, although the exams are usually spread over three years. Nigel Murray, the Director of Music, said in the small size of the school lends it a family atmosphere, 'which has most stimulating effect on the social, academic and musical

development of the young, for children are given really personal attention and develop strong, lasting relationships with like-minded people.'

By keeping independent, St Mary's has avoided some of the problems of integrating curricula that confront the specialist course grafted onto a large secondary school. The benefit is to avoid a sense of isolation, the risk is to increase the distraction for the young musician. At Douglas Academy, the specialist intake seem to be of high intelligence and have no problems keeping up with their contemporaries. There is always the possibility of a specialist pupil deciding after a year or so that he does not want to continue, or - most painfully - being told that he is not really up to the required standard.

There must always be an allowance in the pupil to 'escape' back into the normal examination curriculum; in most cases it will mean a change of schools, but this should be no great disadvantage to the child's academic progress, just a change of emphasis in the curriculum. Picking a child who will not make the grade should be minimised by careful auditioning. At Douglas Academy they had 80 applications in first year and only accepted nine for the course.

The normal procedure is to have a two-day residential final audition, involving practical music-making and an element of social interaction amongst the short-listed children.

Although the numbers are still small, the determination not to lower standards is strong. In Lothian they admit that some parents might have been scared off by the insistence that only pupils of outstanding talent would be accepted for the Specialist Music Scheme.

The intention is that those who have at years (or more in the Lothian scheme) of this intense music tuition will go on to become top-flight orchestral musicians and there might even be a few soloists. This will be where the benefit to the wider community comes in, and no doubt teachers will keenly watch the successful careers of former pupils. But occasionally there will be someone who, although apparently highly talented, decides that the musical life is not for him. This surely must be a blow to all concerned in his education and training. But Neil Bell, looking forward to his first year in the new unit at Broughton High, takes up this possibility with a philosophical view: 'There will always be some who say that they'd just rather become professional musicians. Hopefully you spot the signs of doubt fairly early. But even if you don't I feel we're justified in allowing the child to make up his own mind only when he has had the chance to experience what he can really judge for himself. This is what education is really about: the career aspect must always remain secondary.'

extra
MUSIC MAGS

Andrew Pegg surveys the magazines available to music teachers

In a profession notorious for its lack of corporate identity - one which cannot even quantify its membership accurately - it is hardly surprising to find there is no publication which can even remotely claim to reflect the state of music education in Britain.

The optimist might conclude that the market is wide open; the pessimist might cynically ask whether music teachers ever read anything anyway. It is not that we have a complete dearth of publications for music teachers, rather that those available serve, somewhat haphazardly, a few isolated pockets of the profession, and in no way represent an even coverage of the field. One reason may be that the teachers themselves think of the job firstly as a musical vocation and only secondarily as an educational task. Thus they fail to identify the wider common aims of music education in their concern for solving purely local problems related to teaching conditions or instrumental technique.

The one magazine which, nominally at least, might have provided this overall coverage, was *Music In Education*, latterly published by Macmillan Journals, until its demise in December 1978. It was originally aimed at the grammar and public school music master.

Its cause of death could be said to be acute culture shock as a result of being propelled too rapidly into the second half of the twentieth century.

Where did the readership of *Music In Education* go? Not, it seems, to *Music Teacher* (Evans Brothers, monthly), whose current subscription amounts to no more than 6000 in a profession containing anything between 20,000 and 30,000 practitioners. It might be concluded that in fact the readership for both was virtually identical. Whether or not this was the case, it is clear that a significant proportion of the people involved in music teaching rarely take the opportunity to inform themselves of the activities of their colleagues. But the fault may not lie entirely with poorly motivated teachers - consider what is on offer, for instance:

Music Teacher is sold almost entirely on subscription (at £9.90 for 12 issues). It is relatively expensive, catering for classroom and instrumental teachers, peripatetic and private. There seems no sign as yet that the new editor, Leonard Pearcey (who took over last year), is thinking about the most important issue facing classroom and instrumental teachers: how to integrate their respective efforts.

Indeed, the impression is contrary, as a

readership survey conducted by David Renouf outgoing editor, suggests. Articles on classroom practice seem to compete for space with Associated Board set works analyses, new music reviews, book reviews, news and features. The survey showed readers wanted more careers advice, more on the realities of running a private practice, more on college courses and more on repertoire - a clear indication that instrumental teachers are the more vociferous element of the readership.

Pearcey has already initiated a series of articles on careers, by appropriate authors, but these seem to have done no more than duplicate the information contained in the ISM's informative booklet, *Careers with Music*, and only serve to highlight the fact that there is no career structure within music anyway.

Overall, though, the proportions of news, features and reviews seems to be about right, given a quiescent profession not unduly concerned with the upheavals that are likely to overtake the arts in education over the next few years. *Music Teacher* thus tends to cater for the teacher whose requirement in the main is for information about the music he is likely to use as a teacher, and hints on how to set his pupils on the right path to a sound musical future. The only problem is that for teachers working outside the relatively stable environments of private practices, such questions occupy a low priority in the face of motivational problems, accommodation problems, multi-ethnic problems, ungrateful syllabus requirements, the allure of pop, rock and jazz, literacy versus 'creativity' questions, lack of resources, unsympathetic heads or advisers, staff shortages, non-specialist and unqualified provision in the primary sector, group instrumental teaching, whether parents should be charged for lessons, and so on. Where can the other 20 thousand odd teachers turn to?

The short answer is 'nowhere', though a number of publications touch intermittently on some of these issues. *Music Journal*, the official organ of the Incorporated Society of Musicians is well-placed in the field, and would be more so if and when the Society's current recruiting drive begins to penetrate and maintain itself. The journal is only available to members, of which there are no more than 3400 currently in the Music in Education and Private Teachers' Sections. It concentrates obviously on the Society's activities - reports, news, notices and the like - but insofar as it is conducting an active campaign on behalf of music and musicians, the journal reflects this. It does not always take trouble to identify the issues, however, but tends to work on assumptions which, though obvious perhaps to the musician, may be less so to the world at large. The *TES* itself, on the other hand can and does discuss those questions which may be of wider interest, but is in no position to give sustained coverage to specific points. Likewise, the magazine *Classical Music* (Rhinegold Publishing, fortnightly), which has a high circulation and wide penetration, has regular space for only a few pages on educational matters - no more than a token gesture towards a sector of the music business which accounts for more than seven months than any other. *Set to Music* (Eye to Eye Publications, monthly) is probably widely read by teachers, though strictly speaking it is a magazine aimed at the 15-20 year old student market; it is actually bought mainly by teachers and advisers who presumably then pass it on.

As a link with further education in music and present-day professional conditions (including the popular and jazz worlds) it probably serves a useful function. *Classical Music* and *Set to Music* rely heavily on a combination of advertising revenue and an emphasis on personality (which occasionally brings them dangerously close to the world of the gossip magazine for their survival, but they cover a wide range of activities and are useful sources of information. At the other end of the scale, mention must be made of *Psychology of Music* (Journal of the Society for Research in Psychology of Music and Music Education), practically the only source for published research in this area, and not likely to appeal to the casual reader. But teachers determined at all costs to keep up with the news and current thinking, if they want to, will not be able to do so. An alternative might be to join the International Music Education National Conference, whose *Music Education Journal* (issued twice a year, and also worth the subscription) comes very close to being indispensable to the American music teacher. If only the lively presentation of various practical issues could be emulated in this country.



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extra



North and South Indian music, drums and rhythms; dance and song feature on the Indian side of the Centres work

THE ART AND CULTURE OF INDIA

By Ceri Sherlock

"Sanskritik" means "art and culture", and the Centre of Indian Arts promotes the best of Indian art and civilisations by presenting Indian artists in Britain and British artists in India.

As its title suggests, its brief is vast and recently the centre has appointed Anup Kumar Biswas the gifted young cellist, as artist in residence. As music director he has started a course in "the appreciation and enjoyment of Western Classical music".

The centre, founded in 1969 and originally run from a small room in London's West End, is the progeny of Mr Brenda Shankar, the director. He launched the centre with the 1970 Festival of Arts of India.

The centre is based in Mayfair's South Audley Street, where the Festival holds its informal presentations of music in authentic style.

The two venues, the South Bank and South Audley Street complement each other; the one produced to display in palatial porticoes the diversity of Indian dance and music, while the other is an experience of pure Indian magical music making; both exciting and, both essential to the centre's work.

Anup Kumar Biswas, Kamala Monteiro, David Heath and Bernard French conduct their Saturday morning classes of musical appreciation and enjoyment.

The courses are designed to fill the basic need for a general introduction to Indian music for children of any age.

North and South Indian music, drums and rhythms, Kathak Dance, Tagore's songs, Ragas, Sitar, voice and many more subjects

are covered on the Indian side.

David Heath, formerly co-principal of the Halle Orchestra, gives an introduction to instruments of the orchestra, ballet music, opera, keyboard, early and romantic music. More recently they had a session on late playing in association with the Early Music Centre. These and many more subjects are covered and both classes are taught with the aid of demonstrations, film recordings and concerts by local musicians.

Educationally, its aims are to introduce the traditions and wealth of the Indian culture to Asians in this country and to others eager to appreciate it. For, as Brenda Shankar says, if Britain is to be a truly multi-cultural society and if Asians are to be integrated then the centre's cultural education is essential.

The Centre also distributes informative and beautifully illustrated booklets like *An Introduction to the Music and Dance of India* which features the historical circumstances, the influences, instruments, gestures and dance patterns.

A more definitive work is *Indian Classical Dance* by Kapila Vatsyayan.

The Inner London Education Authority has supported both the Festival and encouraged the new venture with the consequence that Anup Biswas will visit some ILEA schools and give lecture recitals. These, it is hoped, will stimulate interest in the centre's varied activities and encourage pupils in their musical education, and as a native of India he is likely to have an immediate appeal and should stimulate a healthy and active interest in the appreciation of Indian music by the Asian community as a means

towards integration and for those born in Britain, to acquaint them with their own tradition, and also to foster the real interest in Indian music by Westerners.

The interest in the educational work both the Centre and the Sanskritik Festi has been enormous with financial assistance from the Arts Council and the Indian Government, but nevertheless the centre has a deficit of £10,000. In spite of such obstacles it carries on raising the money for the deficit of one Festival while trying to raise enough capital to launch another.

sustained, so it seems, by the belief in the veracity of its aims both educationally and socially and by its achievements, comparable in stature to many state subsidised ballet and opera companies. One example of its work was the "Concert in Symphony" for the refugees of East Bengal, held at Sadler's Wells Theatre in September 1971 in which many distinguished artists including Glenda Jackson took part. The East Harwood, Yehudi Menuhin and the Shankar are also supporters of the centre.

The next Sanskritik Festival of India will be at the South Bank and it promises to be yet another colourful experience well worth a visit. The centre's activities will continue with the Spring and Summer of Anup Biswas' music courses in any age-range on Saturday mornings at South Audley Street, and a recital at the Purcell Room on Sunday, April 5 at 7 p.m. and school recitals in May.

The Centre's venture is unique and grows from providing information and good music to the public platform. The Centre of Indian Arts, 17 Holden Avenue, London N12, 01-346-1381) is given a special mention in the Bullock Report as a dialogue through appreciation leading towards ethnic understanding. The work of the centre is essential to the educational curriculum.



Anup Biswas recites and David Heath, flute with Sanskritik musicians

extra

ORPHEUS IN PIMLICO

Susan Thomas visits the Centre for Young Musicians

Pimlico is not, forgive me, Westminster City Council, a name which instantly conjures up thoughts of rich music and rare talent. So the Saturday tourist who finds himself borne down Lupus Street on a chattering tide of young violinists, flautists or crab walking double bass players, may at first feel surprised and next bemused when a couple of hundred decibels of high opera explode into the street from the kebabs and beefburger bar just over the way. Then the children pour down into the Centre for Young Musicians, and the street is left to the pigeons and Pagliacci.

It is a weekly phenomenon. Every Saturday during the school term, 200 youngsters, half as many professional musicians and a clutch or so of interested visitors, fill the amazing space age Pimlico School. They scurble at handleless doors, lose themselves in dark *cul-de-sacs* and wander, always downwards, from level to level in search of music. And it speaks volumes for the quality of the work that the music makers do overcome the depressing effects of working in a building which accommodates 2000 people in a hole in the ground, by filling the rooms and corridors with harmony, counterpoint and melody.

The CYM, started in 1970, is the second part of the Inner London Education Authority's provision for musically talented children. (The Special Music Course at Pimlico School, *The TES*, November 18, 1981 is the first). It offers a widening and joyous musical experience to all sorts and descriptions of children who maybe do not qualify for the special music course, or perhaps cannot reach Pimlico by 8.30 every morning, who prefer a full Saturday music session to an integrated, but demanding musical education or perhaps just hanker after some less usual instrument, a full size harp, a shawm or an organ.

Whatever their reasons for choosing the centre, there is no doubt about their dedication. The day starts at 9.30 and ends around 5. It includes an individual instrumental lesson, choir, a session of general musicianship, a piano lesson. ("Everybody learns the piano, in the 'piano lab' or in the annex over the road - 18 rooms and 20 pianos. It's a piano factory"), orchestra, ensemble work, a lunch time recital, and somewhere in the middle of all that a guided picnic.

"We do tend to mix with our own kind", a shawm player told me, "you know strings with strings and so on. But almost everybody is really nice, you know, and they're mostly incredibly intelligent". A lot of them go on to study music, and then quite a few don't. But they will probably continue the orchestral skills they learnt at the CYM and on holiday courses with the London Schools Symphony Orchestra. In years to come the Southchurch Symphonies or the Finslesham Philharmonia will benefit from a rare quality of musical awareness.

Because developing musical awareness seems to be the *raison d'être* of the CYM, that and pleasure in music. Even in the red and black depths of the building the young musicians smile as they work. Playing in ensemble makes them aware of pitch, balance, rhythm, and phrasing, and improves their sight-reading. Orchestral work does the same thing, only more so - once they have developed the confidence and skills to realise it.

So the children find themselves working in groups whether it is with instruments, practicing the Kodaly method or singing and general musicianship under the practiced ear and eye of Ian Humphris. "There



Pupils can learn any of the traditional instruments

is", says Peter Shave, course director extraordinary, "a teaching dynamic that you can only get with a group".

But individual instrumental lessons abound, 200 of them fitted into every class and cubby hole. A walk along the corridor tells it all. A wind quartet gently playing among the potted palms in the art room - an intense flautist and tutor working and reworking in phrase - gales of laughter from the early music consort, and packed into a tiny anteroom one full size harp and two harpists.

And smiles everywhere. The children are there because they love to make music, above all they love making it together. The tutors, (all pros, no student teachers) who read like a roll call of the leading orchestras, symphonies with teachers from the music colleges, (and blessed towards Central Europe and the States) come because they care. And the pupils gain from their professionalism, their musical edge. To teach a subject is one thing, to earn your living by doing it is quite another. The performing artist adds immensely to his credibility by being just that.

Peter Shave, ex-teacher/musician and now impresario of the whole undertaking, mostly plays the musical network now, to attract a steady supply of lively, sympathetic staff. He also seems to carry in his head the entire timetable, the syllabus, a photocopy of each pupil's profiled report, as well as each child's total family history. He is assisted by a number of rather abstracted

heads of department in charge of wind, general musicianship and so on.

Ten years on, the CYM is still looking for new ways to improve the musical provision in ILEA. One of its most lively developments is the new junior section. On Saturday afternoon, 50 to 60 primary tines come in for rhythm, aural perception, sight reading, improvisation and movement classes ("I shall play staccato and legato at the same time, you choose which you want to be"). All the things that a good primary school should be offering.

They come on the recommendation of their teachers for one term. Those who could make good use of another get it, and then real talent will be offered a place on the CYM proper. With luck this new dimension means that fewer untalented talents will miss their chance at audition time.

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MUSIC TO SHARE

By Neville Favell

Peripatetic music teachers are interested more in music than in education. According to Mary Warnock in Personal Column (February 13). As standards of instrumental music become increasingly high one feels it is certain most teachers still have time to be interested in their pupils as people.

However, vocal work, which has a more immediate human element, will always tend to provide for most children, certainly at the primary stage, the basic ingredient of a satisfying class music lesson. I was appointed to an unusual class-teaching peripatetic post where music and words are perhaps equally important.

Having been asked to explore with the five-to-eleven-year-olds in various organised primary schools in Rutland some of the many aspects of music, I have sometimes glimpsed real enjoyment and achievement in spite of the unpredictability of young children and have always felt the necessity of endeavouring to foster a regard for them as individuals.

A child should preferably leave primary school with some knowledge of interesting facts so that he can converse sensibly about music and ability to sing agreeably, (or at least with enjoyment), read music and play an instrument profitably.

After the infant stage, a tightly-controlled yet not rigid plan of work (involving nursery rhymes, songs related to topics, basic rhythmic work using percussion instruments and pitch work using the pentatonic scale) may lead to greater effectiveness, because some children will forge ahead as they progress in studies with their peripatetic instrumental teacher in school, or privately, while others will inevitably fall further behind in music as problems of literacy and numeracy become more apparent.

It is impractical to burden these children with much theory beyond the reading of a few basic rhythmic patterns and perhaps some solfa. For all children music should be a joy. A few, clever in other respects, will fall to show much aptitude. Even these may be captured by a desire to acquire information. Though music may be more about feeling than fact, the useful acquisition of knowledge and the imaginative faculty may be put to the test in (say) planning a week's programme of music for the school assembly.

All aspects of school music should be creative—first-hand. The precious gift of imagination, common to us all, though smothered in some, must be succoured through active participation and experimentation. There should be constant delight and excitement, and technique, though necessary, should never stifle it.

Knowledge of such basic fundamentals as the major scale may be acquired interestingly through perhaps singing 'Upon Paul's Staircase', listening to the strings playing it in Quilter's 'Children's Overture' and making up tunes which go up and down on the glockenspiel. The 'singing' lesson should never be divorced from 'music' as a whole. Working closely with class teachers, the peripatetic class teacher will have a wide knowledge of a variety of relevant material for all occasions.

In a future article I will suggest ways in which pupils may be helped to think musically and creatively in work with classroom instruments and in composition. However,

the singing class should not consist only of possibly unthinking reproduction of given words and music. If a child is asked to extend a song he has learnt by making up his own verses, verbal clarity will seem all the more necessary, for example 'Who's that yonder?' might be made to relate to school-friends or famous personalities instead of to biblical characters.

Pitches using solfa to cultivate a sense of tonality and rhythms consisting mainly of crotchets and quaver patterns can be usefully combined by the children as they assemble lists of trees, birds, or more unusually, farm implements, ski-ing equipment—things that mean something to the children concerned. Ask the children to suggest words beginning with digraphs, tip-of-tongue ones like 'it' being especially useful for singing, and vocalise to notes of pentatonic, major and minor scales and chords. The remedial teacher will probably have sorted through successions of such words with pupils and music can help form their later interesting patterns. Music can assist the advancement of other studies and should never exist in isolation.

Percussion is invariably enjoyed. A pupil might try improvising a wordless additional part to a pentatonic melody such as *The Riddle Song*—a test of musicality indeed. A moving part can be combined with a stationary ostinato and we might compose market cries as two vendors (at Oakham or Stamford market) vie for our custom.

Rounds such as *My Paddle's Keen* and *Bright* offer opportunities for variable interpretation on a single chord and guitars and chime bars may be used in addition to voices. A child of limited ability playing on one note can take part. There is a need for the peripatetic music teacher to help slow children just as much as gifted pupils.

Many rounds and songs (like *Polly Wolly Doodle*) are usefully built on two chords and are suitable for varied interpretation on available instruments. It is not profitable however to perpetually look for jolly things. Often pupils may respond to slow meditative tunes more sympathetically and one must remember when one is with children, Schubert's impudent remark that he did not know any cheerful music. Children will see through any attempt at continuous forced *joli-de-vivre*, as for example in rumbustious community singing. Their voices can express well the deeper, more reflective, sometimes sadder emotions that are in us all.

Children must be given the opportunity to become acquainted with the best. Music is to do with the imagination and the more thoughtful the work you put into it—at any time of the week—the peripatetic musician, endeavouring continuously to awaken and sustain interest from Monday morning to Friday afternoon—the more it is to be gained from it.

Benjamin Britten, when in 1936 he composed the magical set of songs *Prilsky Afternoons*, suggested relaxation 'from sterner pursuits in his life, or perhaps his headmaster brother had conveyed this by having held his singing classes at this time, the most important period of the week, as it turned out, for posterity'. But the songs themselves demand rigorous hard work, sensitivity and imaginative interpretation of the highest calibre—something to strive for.

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PRIMARY SCALE 1 continued

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 Application forms (please enclose 3 photos) obtainable from and returnable to the Headteacher, St Mary's R.C. Primary School, Station Road, Waltham Forest, London E4 7BJ.
 Closing date: 15th April 1981. (01-851 1111)

Middle School Education

Headships

NORTHANTS
NORTHAMPTON KINGSLEY PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL
 (St George's Avenue, Northampton, CV1 4JY)
 HEADTEACHER (GROUP 6)
 Required for September 1981. Headteacher for this Group 6, 9-13 Middle School.
 Application forms and further details from the County Education Officer (Mr. M. Northampton), Northampton, NN1 6JX. Closing date: 15th April 1981. (0524 1 620-50)

WARWICKSHIRE

STOCKINGFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL
 Grove Road, Stockingford, Nuneaton, CV11 4JY.
 Appointment of Head
 Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced teachers for the post of Head of this Group 6, 9-13 Middle School. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school's musical activities.
 Application form and further details from the County Education Officer, 28 Northgate Street, Warwick, CV34 4BP, to whom completed applications should be sent by 15th April 1981. (0524 1 620-50)

Deputy Headships

Second Masters/Mistresses

DORSET
 COUNTY COUNCIL
 16-17, Dorchester, Dorset
 BRANSMORE HEATH MIDDLE SCHOOL
 (16-17 Dorchester, Dorset)
 HEAD TEACHER (Group 7)
 Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced teachers for the post of Head of this Group 7, 10-13 Middle School. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school's musical activities.
 Application form and further details from the County Education Officer, 16-17 Dorchester, Dorset, to whom completed applications should be sent by 15th April 1981. (01257 631-60)

HARROW

EDUCATION COMMITTEE
 16-17, Harrow, Harrow, Middlesex
 HEAD TEACHER (Group 7)
 Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced teachers for the post of Head of this Group 7, 10-13 Middle School. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school's musical activities.
 Application form and further details from the County Education Officer, 16-17 Harrow, Harrow, Middlesex, to whom completed applications should be sent by 15th April 1981. (01895 631-60)

WALSALL

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF WALSALL
 HEAD TEACHER (Group 7)
 Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced teachers for the post of Head of this Group 7, 10-13 Middle School. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school's musical activities.
 Application form and further details from the County Education Officer, 16-17 Walsall, Walsall, West Midlands, to whom completed applications should be sent by 15th April 1981. (0924 631-60)

WILTSHIRE

FIBBERTON MAJOR COUNTY
 Highways Agency, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 1JY
 Re-advertisement
 Deputy Head required for September 1981.
 Application form and further details from the County Education Officer, 16-17 Wiltshire, Wiltshire, to whom completed applications should be sent by 15th April 1981. (01295 631-60)

Other Posts on Scale 2 and above

HARROW
 EDUCATION COMMITTEE
 16-17, Harrow, Harrow, Middlesex
 HEAD TEACHER (Group 7)
 Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced teachers for the post of Head of this Group 7, 10-13 Middle School. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school's musical activities.
 Application form and further details from the County Education Officer, 16-17 Harrow, Harrow, Middlesex, to whom completed applications should be sent by 15th April 1981. (01895 631-60)

By Subject Classification

Mathematics

HEREFORD & WORCESTER COUNTY COUNCIL
 WOODFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL
 Woodfield Road, Hereford, Herefordshire, HR1 2JY
 Tel: 01432 681 681
 Required for September 1981.
 1st Deputy Headteacher (Scale 1) or 2nd Deputy Headteacher (Scale 2) to take charge of the school's musical activities.
 Applicants are asked to indicate other subjects they are willing to teach. There are extensive playing fields on site.
 Application forms are available on request of a S.E.E. from the Education Officer, Chace, North Shields, and should be returned to the Headmaster within fourteen days of the appearance of this advertisement. (01432 681-60)

Scale 1 Posts

NORTH TYNSIDE
 METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF NORTH TYNSIDE
 GARDEN BRIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL
 100, Clarendon Avenue, Whitley Bay, NE39 6JW
 Headteacher: Mr. R.W. Charlton
 Required for September 1981.
 Scale 1: Specialist teacher of Music, to take charge of the school's musical activities.
 Scale 2: Specialist teacher of Music, to take charge of the school's musical activities.
 Application forms are available on request of a S.E.E. from the Education Officer, Chace, North Shields, and should be returned to the Headmaster within fourteen days of the appearance of this advertisement. (0191 631-60)

Modern Languages

Heads of Department

HERTFORDSHIRE
 COUNTY COUNCIL
 16-17, Hertford, Hertfordshire, SG1 1JY
 HEAD OF DEPARTMENT (Music)
 Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced teachers for the post of Head of Department of Music. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school's musical activities.
 Application form and further details from the County Education Officer, 16-17 Hertford, Hertfordshire, to whom completed applications should be sent by 15th April 1981. (0462 631-60)

Scale 1 Posts

EAST SUSSEX
 COUNTY COUNCIL (BRIGHTON AREA)
 ST LUKE'S TERRACE MIDDLE SCHOOL
 100, Clarendon Avenue, Brighton, BN1 2JY
 Headteacher: Mr. J.G. Ridler
 Required for September 1981 or earlier.
 Scale 1: Specialist teacher of Music, to take charge of the school's musical activities.
 Scale 2: Specialist teacher of Music, to take charge of the school's musical activities.
 Application forms are available on request of a S.E.E. from the Education Officer, Chace, North Shields, and should be returned to the Headmaster within fourteen days of the appearance of this advertisement. (0191 631-60)

Deputy Headteachers

Pathfield ESN(S) School
 Abbey Road, Barnstaple, Devon, EX31 1JU
 (Roll: 49)
 Head (Group 5/6)
 Required September 1981 for this ESN(S) School with children from 4-16. There is a hostel for 26 pupils boarded on a weekly basis and a special care unit which is for 9 children with additional handicaps. Application forms from Area Education Officer, Civic Centre, North Walk, Barnstaple. Closing date 21st April, 1981.

Great Torrington Bluecoat (V.C.) Infants School

Whites Lane, Torrington, Devon, EX38 8DS
 (Roll: 146)
 Head (Group 4)
 Required for September 1981. Application forms from Area Education Officer, Civic Centre, North Walk, Barnstaple, Devon EX31 1EG. Closing date 21st April, 1981.

Musbury County Primary School, Musbury

Amxminster EX13 6RE (Roll: 35)
 Head (Group 1)
 Required September 1981 for this small rural primary school. Closing date 21st April, 1981.

Deputy Headteachers

Mount Tamar School Row Lane, St. Budeaux, Plymouth PL5 2EF
 Deputy Head (Group 6/8)
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Exeter Whilton (5-8 years) First School

Hill Lane, Exeter (Roll: 288)
 Deputy Head (Group 6)
 Required September 1981 to be responsible for language throughout the school. Closing date 21st April, 1981.

Scale 3 Posts

Exeter Heles Boys (12-16 Comprehensive)
 High School Southam, Exeter (Roll: 1015)
 Scale 3 - Head of History
 Required September 1981 to organise and supervise G.C.E. and C.S.E. courses, twentieth century at present, for forms four and five; to share leadership of integrated humanities course for forms two and three, embracing elements of history, geography and R.E. Closing date 27th April, 1981.

Torquay Boys Grammar School Barton Road, Torquay (Roll: 754)

Scale 3 - Head of Geography
 Required September 1981. Closing date 21st April, 1981.

Scale 2 Posts

Barnstaple, Ashleigh C of E Primary School
 Bevan Road, Barnstaple (Roll: 340)
 Scale 2 - P.E.
 Required for September 1981, experienced class teacher to take responsibility for the school's Physical Education throughout the school, with special emphasis on boys games. Closing date 10th April, 1981.

Blidford, West Croft Junior School

Coronation Road, Blidford, Wiltshire, Wiltshire, SN1 3DE (Roll: 339)
 Scale 2 - Science and Mathematics
 Required September 1981. Responsibility for the co-ordination of Science and Mathematics. Application forms from the Headteacher, returnable as soon as possible and not later than 21st May 1981.

Other Posts on Scale 2 and above

HARROW
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 16-17, Harrow, Harrow, Middlesex
 HEAD TEACHER (Group 7)
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 Application form and further details from the County Education Officer, 16-17 Harrow, Harrow, Middlesex, to whom completed applications should be sent by 15th April 1981. (01895 631-60)

Other than by Subject Classification

Scale 1 Posts

MERTON
 LONDON BOROUGH OF MERTON
 100, Clarendon Avenue, Merton, London SW19 6JW
 Tel: 01-851 1111
 Teacher: Mr. R.I.J. Hardy, M.A.
 Tel: 01-851 1111
 Age Range: 5-13
 Required for the Summer term, a Specialist teacher of Music, to take charge of the school's musical activities.
 Application forms are available on request of a S.E.E. from the Education Officer, Chace, North Shields, and should be returned to the Headmaster within fourteen days of the appearance of this advertisement. (0191 631-60)

Scale 1 Posts

MERTON
 LONDON BOROUGH OF MERTON
 100, Clarendon Avenue, Merton, London SW19 6JW
 Tel: 01-851 1111
 Teacher: Mr. R.I.J. Hardy, M.A.
 Tel: 01-851 1111
 Age Range: 5-13
 Required for the Summer term, a Specialist teacher of Music, to take charge of the school's musical activities.
 Application forms are available on request of a S.E.E. from the Education Officer, Chace, North Shields, and should be returned to the Headmaster within fourteen days of the appearance of this advertisement. (0191 631-60)

Scale 1 Posts

Exeter St. Thomas (12-16 Comprehensive)
 High School Hatherleigh Road, Exeter (Roll: 1112)
 Scale 2 - Fabrics
 Required September 1981 to be responsible for Creative Fabrics within the Faculty of Creative Arts. The Faculty is presently engaged in developing a design approach to activities in Workshop Crafts, Home Economics, Fabrics, Music, Art, Drama and Physical Education. Closing date 27th April, 1981.

Kingsbridge School and Community College

Kingsley Road, Kingsbridge (Roll: 1097)
 Scale 2 - Head of Music in the Lower School
 Required September 1981 in this Group 11, mixed 11-16 Comprehensive, an enthusiastic young musician who will develop a new music area in Lower School. Exam work to C.S.E. and 'O' Level available. Ability and willingness to train orchestra and choir essential. Closing date 21st April, 1981.

Scale 1 Posts

Exeter Ellen Tinkham Special (E.S.N.(S)) School
 Hollow Lane, Exeter EX1 3RW (Roll: 60)
 Scale 1
 Required September 1981 for junior class (7-10 year olds). Preference will be given to candidates holding the S.Ph.Ed. Diploma. Closing date: 21st April, 1981.

Exeter, The Priory (12-16 Comprehensive)

High School Earl Richards Road South, Exeter (Roll: 780)
 Scale 1 - Mathematics
 Required September 1981 to teach the subject through to 'O' level and C.S.E. The School has a micro-processor and an interest in computer studies across the curriculum would be a strong recommendation. Closing date 27th April, 1981.

Iffracombe School and Community College

Worth Road, Iffracombe EX35 8JA (Roll: 1623)
 Scale 1 (Two Posts)
 (1) General Science and Mathematics required September 1981. An interest in work with less able pupils would be advantageous.
 (2) General Subjects required September 1981, to teach general subjects to slow learning pupils in years 1 to 3. Closing date for both posts 17th April, 1981.

Dawlish School Elm Grove Road, Dawlish (Roll: 788)

Scale 1 - English
 Required September 1981, in this Group 10, mixed 11-16 Comprehensive, to teach subject to C.S.E. and 'O' Level. Ability to teach French in Lower School an advantage. Closing date 21st April, 1981.

Newton Abbot, Knowles Hill School

Exeter Road, Newton Abbot
 Scale 1 - Mathematics
 Required September 1981 in this Group 12, mixed 11-16 Comprehensive, a Graduate able to teach 'A' level. Maths is a high priority subject within the curriculum and pupils follow individualised courses in audio-visual Maths Labs. Closing date 21st April, 1981.

Holworthy School and Community College

Victoria Hill, Holworthy, Devon EX22 8JD (Roll: 628)
 Scale 1 - Design and Technical Drawing
 Required September 1981, suitably qualified to develop a broad range of graphic design, illustration and technical drawing within the curriculum of a close-knit art and design team. An interest and ability to teach a small amount of environmental studies in the first year and for rural science would be an advantage. Closing date: 21st April, 1981.

Scale 1 Posts

Exeter Ellen Tinkham Special (E.S.N.(S)) School
 Hollow Lane, Exeter EX1 3RW (Roll: 60)
 Scale 1
 Required September 1981 for junior class (7-10 year olds). Preference will be given to candidates holding the S.Ph.Ed. Diploma. Closing date: 21st April, 1981.

Exeter, The Priory (12-16 Comprehensive)

High School Earl Richards Road South, Exeter (Roll: 780)
 Scale 1 - Mathematics
 Required September 1981 to teach the subject through to 'O' level and C.S.E. The School has a micro-processor and an interest in computer studies across the curriculum would be a strong recommendation. Closing date 27th April, 1981.

Iffracombe School and Community College

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 (1) General Science and Mathematics required September 1981. An interest in work with less able pupils would be advantageous.
 (2) General Subjects required September 1981, to teach general subjects to slow learning pupils in years 1 to 3. Closing date for both posts 17th April, 1981.

Dawlish School Elm Grove Road, Dawlish (Roll: 788)

Scale 1 - English
 Required September 1981, in this Group 10, mixed 11-16 Comprehensive, to teach subject to C.S.E. and 'O' Level. Ability to teach French in Lower School an advantage. Closing date 21st April, 1981.

Newton Abbot, Knowles Hill School

Exeter Road, Newton Abbot
 Scale 1 - Mathematics
 Required September 1981 in this Group 12, mixed 11-16 Comprehensive, a Graduate able to teach 'A' level. Maths is a high priority subject within the curriculum and pupils follow individualised courses in audio-visual Maths Labs. Closing date 21st April, 1981.

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accompanying the choir and play for school services some of which are held in Sherborne Abbey. Successful applicants will also be required to teach piano, A. Harmony and Class music, and play a full part in the life of school.

Apply in writing to the Headmaster giving details of qualifications and experience, and the name of two referees. (00331) 13

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
WORKSOP COLLEGE
Required from September 18

OXON
BLOXHAM SCHOOL
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
Required for September 1981.
The post combines the teaching of music to 'A' Level with the ORGANIST.
Applicants should be graduates of a university or conservatoire with a first class honours degree in music.

Pastoral

GLoucestershire

BREDON SCHOOL, Boarding (Independent Boys' Boarding Day School, 170 pupils, 11-14). An experienced teacher required for the post of **HEAD OF MIDDLE SCHOOL** in a boarding house of 45 pupils. Only those qualified for **ENGINE or ART or CRAFT** need apply. Preference will be given to a married person with a school experience whose salary is negotiable in contribution.

Other Assistants

EAST SUSSEX
BUCKSWOOD GRANGE
Bickfield
HOUSEMASTER required for
to share pastoral duties in sec-
ondary boarding school. Previous
experience and ability to contribute
curricular activities of the school
advantage. Single, efficient, offer-
ing related to Burnham School.
Please apply, stating terms, con-
ditions and levels offered, with
names of two referees to the
Principal.

SAFFRON WALDEN
FRIENDS' SCHOOL
Constitutional boarding school governed by Society of Friends (Quakers) 520 pupils, 75 in 8th. **REMOVED** in September 1981. **MISTRESS** for girls' board responsible for pastoral care plus of 60 girls, ages 11-18, preferably able to offer (teach) or more curriculum subjects: Physical Education and English; accommodation inquiries details to the Head, John Wood.

TEIGNMOUTH
TRINITY SCHOOL
Co-educational and Co-denominational for September 1961 is **WINTER 1961**, the most exciting time teaching of Home Economics responsibility for the walkers. Approximately 88 senior girls.
Please apply to the Headmistress, and names of two referees, School, Buckridge Road, Teignmouth, Devon.

GDOLPHIN SCHOOL
Wanted for September 19
DENT HOUSEMISTRESS
responsible for a boarding
about 50 girls aged 1
Teacher preferred. No ca
burning. Salary for a teacher
Birmingham Scale 2 plus fir
and residence in town time
moderation could be suitab
married or single women
Apply to write to the
branch giving full details of
qualifications, experience and teach
jects offered and the nu
addresses of two referees.

HERE COLLEGE
E, SALOP SY12 9AB
phone 2321

WARD" SCHOOL
for September

INSTANT PLAIN

with names of two
to the Headmaster

1000

HEADTEACHER

King's College is an independent day and boarding with 750 pupils from 3 to 18 years.

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced candidates for the above post for September 1981. Applicants should be graduates holding a similar post as well as having had experience abroad. A working knowledge of Spanish is essential. Good salary offered.

The School is recognised as an Overseas Centre for 'O' and 'A' level examinations. Courses for the Spanish Baccalauréat are also offered.

Applications with full curriculum vitae, addresses and telephone numbers of three referees, a recent photograph to The Secretary, The School Council, Avda. de Stuyck 1, Madrid 16 by 27th April.

TESY31

Teach English in Germany

CBT is recruiting teachers of English in Further Education establishments (Berufshilfsstellen) in Northern Westfalen. 1988 are commercial, technical or domestic in orientation and English teaching presents a challenge because of the wide age range (18-19+) and ability ranges. Twelve month contracts run from 1 September 1981.

Your Career
A year or two in Germany will give you a chance to refine your knowledge of German. You can improve your professional skills by teaching EFL for the first time and by writing your own material - and we will help you by organising in-service seminars and conferences. We will also help you find an interesting post at home or overseas when your contract ends.

Your Welfare
The Centre has an extensive back-up service which includes:
* full briefings in Britain
* two-week Orientation Course in Germany
* help in finding accommodation
* full medical insurance
* return fares for you and your family

Financial Benefits
Salaries from DM 1800 to DM 2800 per month with DM 340 to DM 610 per month.
An extra month's salary as a Christmas bonus.
Salaries and allowances are free of German and UK income tax.
Qualifications
Candidates with:
* a University degree
* a post-graduate teaching qualification
* good German
* teaching experience or experience in industry.

Please write to:
The Centre for British Teachers (CBT),
Quality House, Quality Court,
Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1HR.
Tel 01-445 2983.

CBT

Head of Language Studies

SAUDI ARABIA - c. £16,403 p.a. tax free

Allied Medical Group are British health care management consultants to the Riyadh Al-Khaz Hospital Programme which provides the very best of health care for the armed forces of Saudi Arabia and their dependants. The Programme is made up of two modern, superbly equipped and mainly British staffed hospitals in Riyadh, the capital city, and Al-Khaz, some 90 miles to the south.

We now have an opportunity for an able and accomplished man or woman to manage the well established Language Services Unit which is primarily involved in the teaching of English. As well as identifying language training needs and assessing teaching methods, the Head of Language Services is responsible for directing a team of instructors in preparing the required programmes, lessons, materials and audio-visual aids. The successful candidate will also be handling general management, including policy formation, administration and budgetary control.

Naturally, given the wide responsibility involved, candidates are likely to be in their thirties and have at least 5 years solid language experience which should include in a Middle Eastern country. As well as a first degree, candidates should possess a teaching qualification, preferably TEFL.

The starting salary quoted is based on 113,581 Saudi Riyals (approximately 7.5 SR = £1) and includes a gratuity of one month's salary for every twelve months' service payable on completion of your two year contract. Benefits include: free, fully furnished married accommodation; four weeks leave for every six months' service; free air fares (including leave flights); generous educational allowances; extensive recreational and welfare facilities. There are no income tax or exchange/currency regulations operating in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

For further details please write, quoting ref: BKH 3127, to: A. M. Edwards, Senior Personnel Officer, Allied Medical Group, 10 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0DZ. Alternatively, call our 24 hour answering service on 01-730 5539, quoting reference.

All applications will be dealt with in the strictest confidence.

Allied Medical Group

THE BRITISH SCHOOL

OF BRUSSELS

a-coeducational all-age day school of approaching 1,100 pupils, requires for September 1981 for the Upper School:

- Assistant Art Teacher.** A specialist in Ceramics and Sculpture is sought, but a good all-round background in Secondary School work, including A-level also required.
- Chemistry Teacher.** Graduate to teach throughout the secondary age-range including Nuffield A-level and O-level tuition.

Applications with full curriculum vitae, testimonials and names of two referees should be sent with telephone numbers for day and evening contact, to the Headmaster who will send further information.

The British School of Brussels,
Steenweg op Leuven 18,
1280 Tervuren, Belgium.

TESY31

Subject Adviser

(Mathematics)

£10,887-£11,916 plus £408 London Weighting, Southbury Group 7, plus Outer London Allowance, "Casual User" Car Allowance.

For 1st September, 1981, or earlier if possible, suitably qualified and experienced Teachers for this post within the Advisory Service based at the Teachers' Centre, Queens Road, E.17.

Applicants should have appropriate qualifications and successful teaching experience.

Previous applicants will be reconsidered.

Application form and further details obtainable from Controller of Personnel Services, Town Hall, Forest Road, London E17 4JF. (Tel. 01-531 8899 - 24 hour answering service).

Closing date: 17th April, 1981.

Please quote Ref: G394

TES2321



Careers Service

Careers Officers

(Temporary)

£5,288-£6,651 p.a.

Applications are invited from qualified Careers Officers or from students completing courses in the near future which lead to the Diploma in Careers Guidance, for the temporary posts of Careers Officer, one in Northampton and the other in Kettering.

The successful applicants will be appointed on a week contract. It is the policy in Northamptonshire to offer, subject to satisfactory progress, temporary careers officers a permanent post as soon as a vacancy arises.

The persons appointed will undertake a full case-load of advisory work in schools together with associated duties. A casual users car allowance will be payable.

Applications forms and further details are available from the Personnel Officer, County Hall, George Row Northampton, Telephone: Northampton 34833 Ext. 624, to be returned by 17th April, 1981.

TES232

Northamptonshire

Education

SCHOOLS COUNCIL

Higher Executive Officer

Applications are invited for the post of Higher Executive Officer in the Assessment and Examinations Support Team. The successful candidate will be the Support Team Leader with responsibility, amongst other matters, for arranging support for the Council's development programme in the field of assessment, and examinations and also for the Council's continuing programme concerning standards at 'A' level.

The appointment is expected to run for two years initially and salary will be on a scale £6950-£8553 + £1016 London Weighting.

Further details and application forms are available from Mrs A. Stewart,
160 Great Portland Street,
London W1N 6LJ. 01-580 0352 ext 351.

Closing date for receipt of applications 17 April 1981.

TES232

General

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE

THE NORTH REGIONAL EXAMINATIONS BOARD

SECONDARY EDUCATION

The Board proposes

SPECIALIST ASSISTANT

SALARY

£11,010 in eight years

The post is

intermediate

under the Government

Education Act

1944 and is

a full-time

position

in the

secondary

education

service

The

successful

candidate

will

be

responsible

for

the

teaching

and

supervision

COUNTY ADVISOR

for

PRIMARY EDUCATION

Salary Scale: Southbury Scale based on

Burnham Group 10 £13,390-£14,430 p.a.

Applications are invited from well qualified and experienced

candidates for this post.

The appointment will involve a general pastoral responsibility

for a number of schools in the area of the Authority. In

addition, the successful candidate will share responsibility for

advising on all aspects of Primary Education throughout the

County.

Essential Car User Allowance is payable.

Application forms and further details are obtainable from

the Chief Education Officer, P.O. Box 61, Quayside, York

Preston, PR1 8JL to be returned by 24th April 1981,

quoting reference C082/1/PJ.

Further information from:

The Director of Education, North Yorkshire Education

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Education Service

Professional Assistant

(Development and Administration)

£7,500-£8,481

(N.J.C. A.P.T.C. Scheme Points 31-35)

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced candidates, who should be graduates with teaching experience.

This post should be of interest to teachers seeking an initial appointment in Local Education Authority administration. The post qualifies for an essential car allowance and the Authority also operates a car loan scheme. Approved removal expenses paid.

Application forms and further details obtainable from D. P. J. Browning, M.A., Chief Education Officer, County Hall, Bedford, MK42 8AP, or telephone Steve Johnson on Bedford 63222 Ext. 345.

Closing date 10th April, 1981.

RES2321

Bedfordshire

SCHOOLS COUNCIL

CAREERS EDUCATION: PRACTICE & TRAINING

Applications are invited for the post of CO-ORDINATOR for this activity which is part of the Schools Council's Programme 'Developing the Curriculum for a Changing World'. This part of the Programme seeks to promote a coherent approach to careers education in schools and the training of those involved in careers education.

The work of the Co-ordinator will include establishing and working with local groups of teachers and teacher trainers. He or she will be expected to have experience of a senior teaching post in a secondary school and preferably experience of curriculum planning, curriculum development and in-service training.

The post will probably be based at the Schools Council in London but alternative arrangements could be negotiated. The terms will be a temporary contract, initially 19 months from 1st September 1981, on a scale £9,516 to £11,247 (plus 1981 Burnham Award) with London Allowance if applicable. Secondment could be arranged on existing salary plus an allowance of £355.

Further particulars and application forms can be obtained from Mrs. A. Stewart, Schools Council, 160 Great Portland Street, London W1N 6LJ. Tel. 01-580 0352 Ext. 351. Closing date for applications: 28th April, 1981.

TES2321

Principal Assistant Director of Education

£15,315-£16,557

Applications are invited for this new second tier post from well qualified men or women with senior professional experience in local education authority departments. The main areas of responsibility include the administration of primary and special education and the management of the Authority's team of nine General Inspectors and of the Schools Psychological Service.

Closing date: 27th April 1981.

Application forms and further details from the Assistant Chief Executive (Head of Manpower Services) Town Hall, Bromley, Kent. Tel: 01-484 3333 Ext. 3318.

TES2321

Bromley

City of Manchester

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Openshaw Technical College

Whitworth Street, Openshaw

Manchester M11 2WH

Tel: 061-223 8282

Department of Electrical & Electronic Engineering

PRINCIPAL LECTURER IN ELECTRICAL

ENGINEERING

(Salary scale £10,596-£13,348 p.a.)

to teach and develop the subject up to and including TEC

Higher Certificate level. Applicants should have appropriate

Industrial and teaching experience in one of the following areas

(a) Control Systems Engineering

(b) Modern Industrial Electronics

In addition he/she will be expected to assist the Head of

Department in the day to day administration

Experience in the field of microprocessors of computing would

be an advantage.

Application form and further details available from the Senior

Administrative Officer at the College. Closing date: 22 April

1981.

TESA331

Further details and application forms are available

from the Senior Administrative Officer at the college.

WOLVERHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL Education Committee

Inspector/Adviser for Computing and Mathematics

Salary - Southbury Headteacher Group B (£12,840-£13,850).

Applications are invited for appointment from September 1981.

The successful candidate will have good academic qualifications and wide experience in a variety of situations. Experience of advisory work would be an advantage.

All inspectors have a general responsibility for a small group of primary and secondary schools in addition to their specialist responsibility.

Application forms and further particulars are available from the Director of Education, Civic Centre, St Peter's Square, Wolverhampton WV1 1RR to whom completed forms should be returned by 24 April 1981.

TES2321

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF YOUNG FARMERS' CLUBS

invite applications for the post of

EDUCATION OFFICER

SALARY - SOUTHURBY SCALE MAIN RANGE (BURNHAM RELATED)

(Points 3-7 £8,838-£9,852)

(upgradeable after 12 months on results). Plus a car.

This leading voluntary youth organisation seeks a person with skill in identifying training requirements and in structuring the necessary courses. The successful candidate must be skilled in this type of work, dedicated and will be helped by an outgoing personality. They must be able to enthuse and involve young people and be willing to make a real commitment to the job. Based at the National Agricultural Centre, the successful candidate must live within reasonable distance of the NAC. A car will be provided.

Further details and application form from:
The General Secretary, NEYFC, YFC Centre,
National Agricultural Centre,
Kenilworth, Warwickshire, CV8 2LG.
Closing date for applications, 10th April, 1981.
Interviews, 24th April, 1981.

TES2321

THE BRITISH COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

YOUTH SECRETARY

The British Council of Churches requires an Executive Secretary for its Youth Unit, within the Division of Ecumenical Affairs.

The Youth Secretary is responsible for the co-ordination and stimulation of church youth work through Britain, and for encouraging the ecumenical education of young people.

Applicants, ordained or lay, should be members in good standing of a member-church of the Council. The appointment is for five years.

Application forms from: The General Secretary, The British Council of Churches, 2 Eaton Gate, London SW1W 9BL. Telephone: 01-730 9811.

Application forms to be returned by 15th April 1981.

TES2322

BIRMINGHAM SETTLEMENT

RESIDENTIAL SOCIAL WORKER

The Settlement is looking for a person (male or female) to join its residential staff team in its mixed hostel for "in care" adolescents, students and young working people.

The atmosphere is informal and the emphasis on educational rather than custodial needs. The person appointed will be over 22, one of a team of three with proven sympathy and ability to work with young people.

Further details and application form from:

The Director,
Birmingham Settlement,
318 Summer Lane,
Birmingham B19 3RL.

TESA331

ADMINISTRATION GENERAL continued

CAMBRIDGE

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

TEST DEVELOPMENT UNIT

RESEARCH UNIT

Applications are invited from

graduates for the post of As-

sistant Director of Test De-

velopment and Research Unit

The successful candidate will

be responsible for the develop-

ment of test materials for

the University of Cambridge

Examinations. The post is

a full-time position. The

successful candidate will

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Examinations. The post is

MISCELLANEOUS continued

SPEND SUMMER VACATION WITH CHILDREN

A 7 Holiday Centres in England. We need adults who enjoy the company of children as a Senior Tutor or as a Junior Tutor. The centres are for children aged 5-11, and offer a wide range of activities, including sports, arts and crafts, and outdoor games. The centres are located in various parts of England, and offer a range of accommodation and catering facilities. For more information, please contact the relevant centre.

If you write to Charles Wills, at 10, Moorfields, East London, you will receive a full information pack. Interviews will be held in various areas across the country. 391-90

Outdoor Education

ESSEX

INSTRUMENTAL CANOE
Full-time required at the Hadow Full-time Centre for six months during the summer holidays. The person appointed must have the necessary B. C. U. coaching qualifications to instruct young people and adults, and to manage the canoeing facilities at this centre, situated on the banks of the River Arica. Enquiries to the Warden, Harlow. 392-90

Application forms from The Arica Community Education Office, St. John's Road, Harlow, Essex. (0262) 392-90

NORTHUMBERLAND

EWART OUTDOOR CENTRE
A fantastic base for your school Outdoor Activities Year in Harlow. The centre is situated on the banks of the River Arica, and offers a wide range of activities, including canoeing, rock climbing, and outdoor games. The centre is open from June to September, and offers a range of accommodation and catering facilities. For more information, please contact the relevant centre.

Application forms from The Arica Community Education Office, St. John's Road, Harlow, Essex. (0262) 392-90

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Application forms from The Arica Community Education Office, St. John's Road, Harlow, Essex. (0262) 392-90

LOTHIAN REGIONAL COUNCIL DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Lagganlie Centre for Outdoor Education
Kinross, Kingsdale, Inverness-Shire

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

This responsible post will become available from 1 May 1981. Candidates must be qualified teachers and be eligible for registration with the General Teaching Council for Scotland. A wide range of experience in outdoor work is necessary. The post is residential and unfurnished accommodation is provided on site.

Salary is in accordance with the current Scottish Teachers' Salaries Memorandum (Grade 1 - £6037 - £8082 (Bar) - £8472) plus a responsibility allowance of £1885 per annum. Further information and application forms are obtainable from the Divisional Education Officer (Division 2) (Personnel), 40 Tolphenden Street, Edinburgh EH3 8JL.

Educational Psychologists

Educational Psychologist

Salary: £7,085-£11,918 plus Outer London Allowance.

The School Psychological Service, which has its own premises, is well established and able to offer a wide range of experience and responsibility. You will be responsible, under the guidance of a Senior Educational Psychologist, for the following duties: Schools and Nurseries in the geographical area of the Borough; Tutorial Centres and Special Classes; Social Services Establishments (Assessment Centres and Children's Homes); children with physical handicaps and Merthyr Centre (Secondary School) Support Centre.

Further details and application form obtainable from the Controller of Personnel Services, Town Hall, Forest Road, Walthamstow, London E17 8JF. Tel: 01-331 8886 (24 hour answering service). Closing date: 17 April.

Please quote ref G3881



WILTSHIRE

SUMMER VACATION WORK - If you enjoy the company of children on holiday, have the ability to motivate young staff, have a good record in administration and the organization of leisure activities, we want to recruit you as a Senior Tutor or as a Junior Tutor. The centres are for children aged 5-11, and offer a wide range of activities, including sports, arts and crafts, and outdoor games. The centres are located in various parts of Wiltshire, and offer a range of accommodation and catering facilities. For more information, please contact the relevant centre.

If you write to Charles Wills, at 10, Moorfields, East London, you will receive a full information pack. Interviews will be held in various areas across the country. 391-90

DEVON

RIVER DART RESIDENTIAL CENTRE

Summer Employment June/Sept. We require two instructors, qualified and able to instruct at basic level in climbing, canoeing, and camping. Must be 25 years of age or over, and have a good record in administration and the organization of leisure activities. The centre is situated on the banks of the River Dart, and offers a range of accommodation and catering facilities. For more information, please contact the relevant centre.

Closing date 30th April. (01607) 392-90

CUMBRIA

HIGH PLAINS LODGE

A new purpose built centre high on the North Pennines, accommodating up to 100 people in a modern, well equipped building. The centre offers a wide range of activities, including canoeing, rock climbing, and outdoor games. The centre is open from June to September, and offers a range of accommodation and catering facilities. For more information, please contact the relevant centre.

Application forms from The Arica Community Education Office, St. John's Road, Harlow, Essex. (0262) 392-90

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Application forms from The Arica Community Education Office, St. John's Road, Harlow, Essex. (0262) 392-90

English as a Foreign Language

BERKSHIRE

Qualified experienced E.F.L. teacher required September. Re-apply with cv and references. Apply to: The Director, Educational Services, Reading, Berks. RG 7 2NP. (0064) 392-90

BERKSHIRE

EFL SUMMER COURSES

VACATION STUDIES require qualified, experienced EFL teachers able to deliver a 4-week residential course for students aged 11-16. For application forms and details, write to: The Director, Educational Services, Reading, Berks. RG 7 2NP. (0064) 392-90

CHICHESTER

SCHOOL OF ENGLISH

Bank links with overseas schools. Pertinent and individualized. Accommodation in selected families. Fully qualified teachers. Chichester, Sussex. Tel: (01243) 854333. (01243) 854333

ESSEX

TRAIN TO TEACH ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

For more information, please contact the relevant centre. 392-90

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Dynamic Experienced EFL required for language institute in France. Knowledge of several languages. Salary up to 4,000 pounds per annum. Write to: The Director, Educational Services, Reading, Berks. RG 7 2NP. (0064) 392-90

HERTFORDSHIRE

S.E. Teachers required, full or part-time, for 1981-82.

For more information, please contact the relevant centre. 392-90

DEVON

RIVER DART RESIDENTIAL CENTRE

Summer Employment June/Sept. We require two instructors, qualified and able to instruct at basic level in climbing, canoeing, and camping. Must be 25 years of age or over, and have a good record in administration and the organization of leisure activities. The centre is situated on the banks of the River Dart, and offers a range of accommodation and catering facilities. For more information, please contact the relevant centre.

Closing date 30th April. (01607) 392-90

CUMBRIA

HIGH PLAINS LODGE

A new purpose built centre high on the North Pennines, accommodating up to 100 people in a modern, well equipped building. The centre offers a wide range of activities, including canoeing, rock climbing, and outdoor games. The centre is open from June to September, and offers a range of accommodation and catering facilities. For more information, please contact the relevant centre.

Application forms from The Arica Community Education Office, St. John's Road, Harlow, Essex. (0262) 392-90

NORTHUMBERLAND

EWART OUTDOOR CENTRE

A fantastic base for your school Outdoor Activities Year in Harlow. The centre is situated on the banks of the River Arica, and offers a wide range of activities, including canoeing, rock climbing, and outdoor games. The centre is open from June to September, and offers a range of accommodation and catering facilities. For more information, please contact the relevant centre.

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